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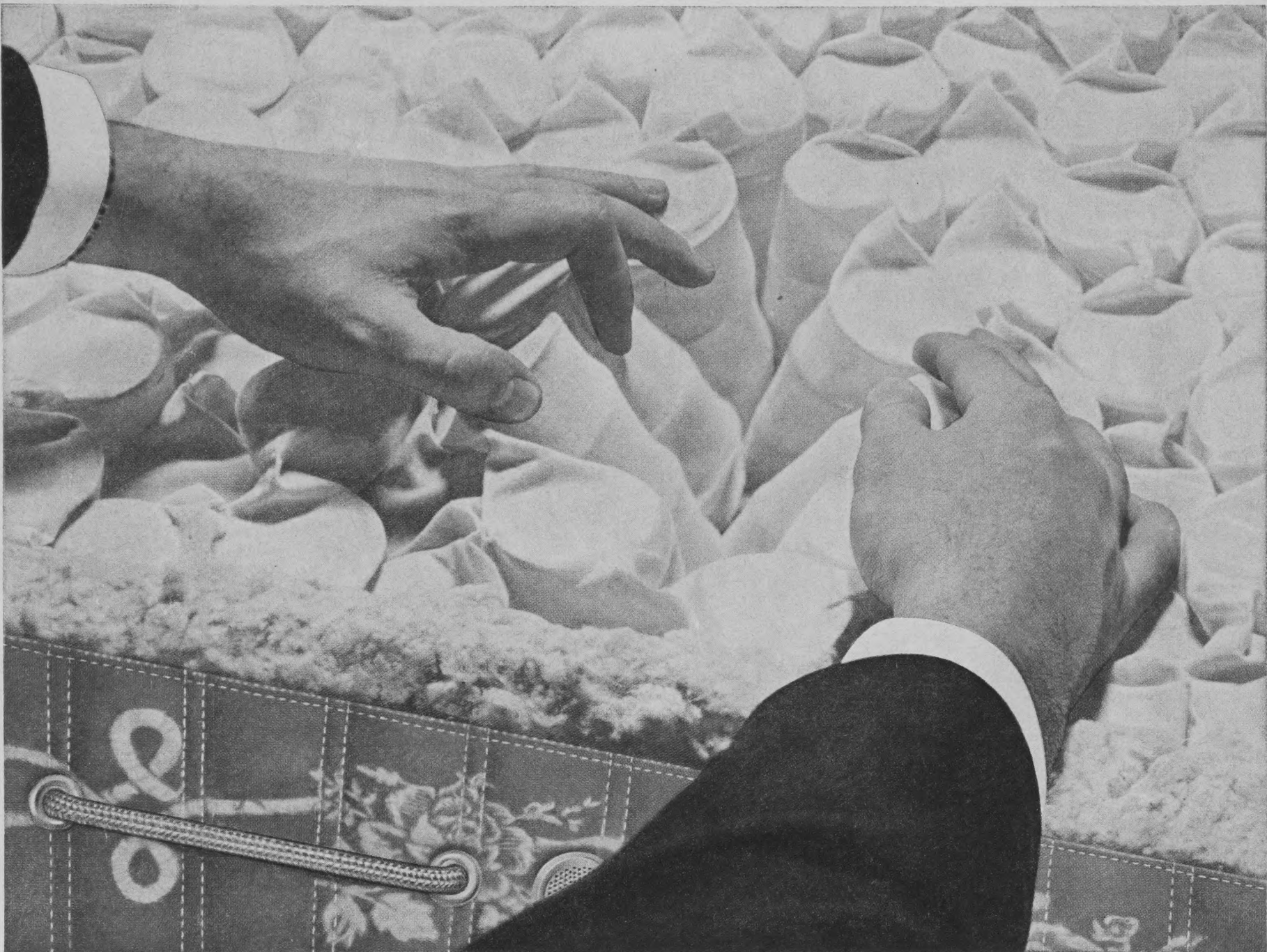
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837 Reasons Why

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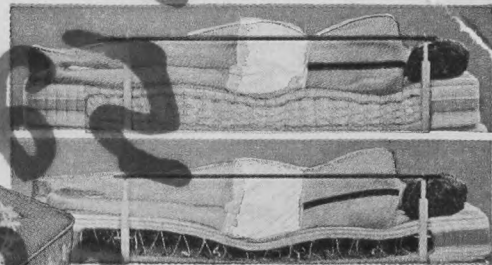
Beautyrest has 837 individually pocketed coil springs. Each acts independently with "Floating Coil Action" . . . can't pull the others down. That's why Beautyrest cradles *every* body curve with firmness and comfort, giving truly *levelized* support that is the secret of perfect relaxation.

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WINNIPEG VANCOUVER



[Photo by J. R. Bainbridge]

THE *Country* GUIDE

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NOVEMBER, 1955

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The editors couldn't resist the little Irish donkey with the big load at the top of this page. The picture was taken at Derrykeevan, Co. Armagh, Eire (Southern Ireland). The turf, or peat, on the cart is a familiar sight in Ireland, where it is still burned on the home fires.

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COVER: Clarence Tillenius, the well-known Winnipeg animal painter, who has provided so many pleasing cover pictures for readers of The Country Guide, is back again this month. Here is a different deer portrait, this time in a setting of early winter, where light and shadow on the white-blanketed landscape provide a pleasing contrast for the alert and dainty doe.

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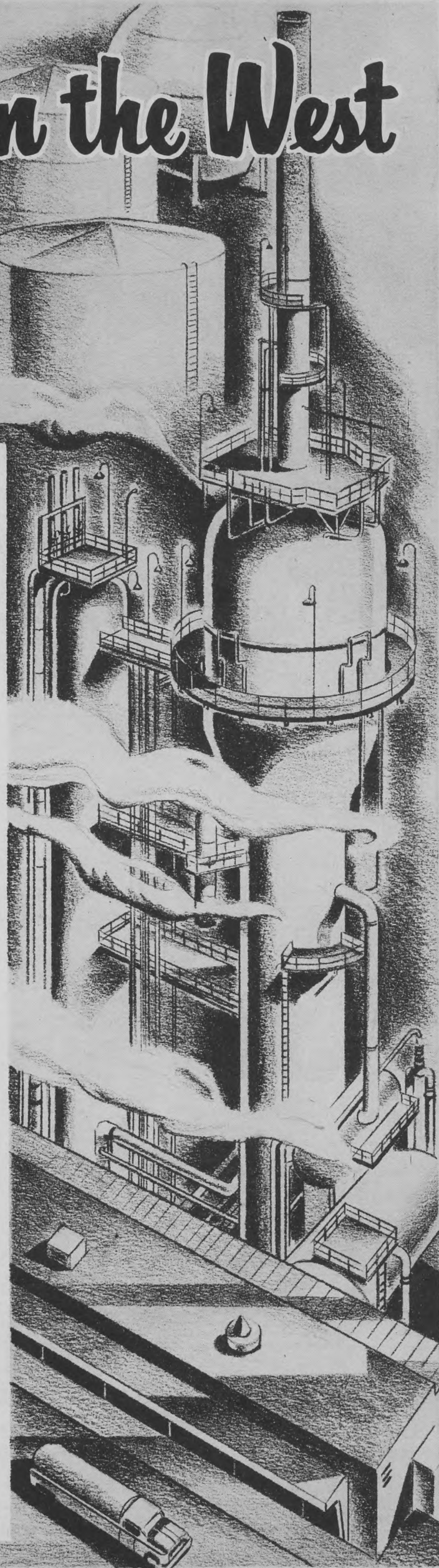
Pride as a medium for ever-increasing employment, direct and indirect, throughout the west.

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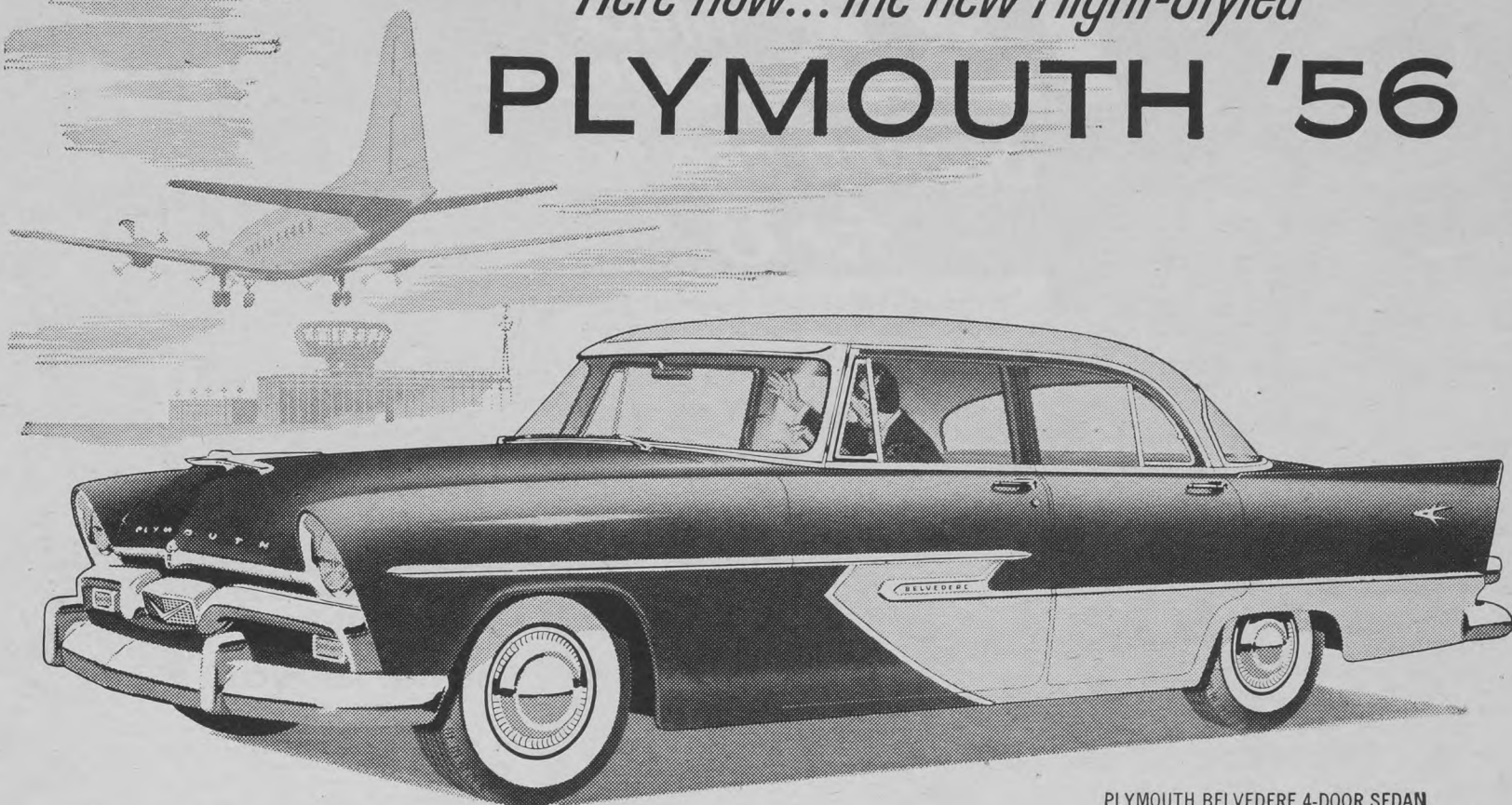
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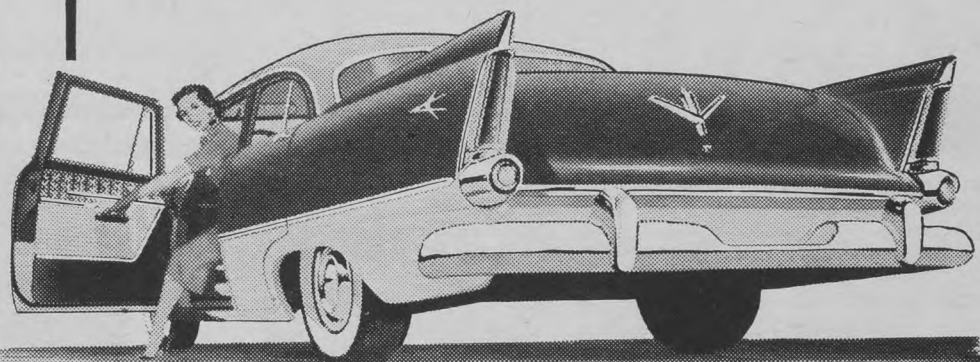
New beauty gives wings to the
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Now, Plymouth, finest car in the low-price field, brings you thrilling new flight-styled beauty. The '56 Plymouth has greater power, too, and revolutionary push-button automatic gear selecting.

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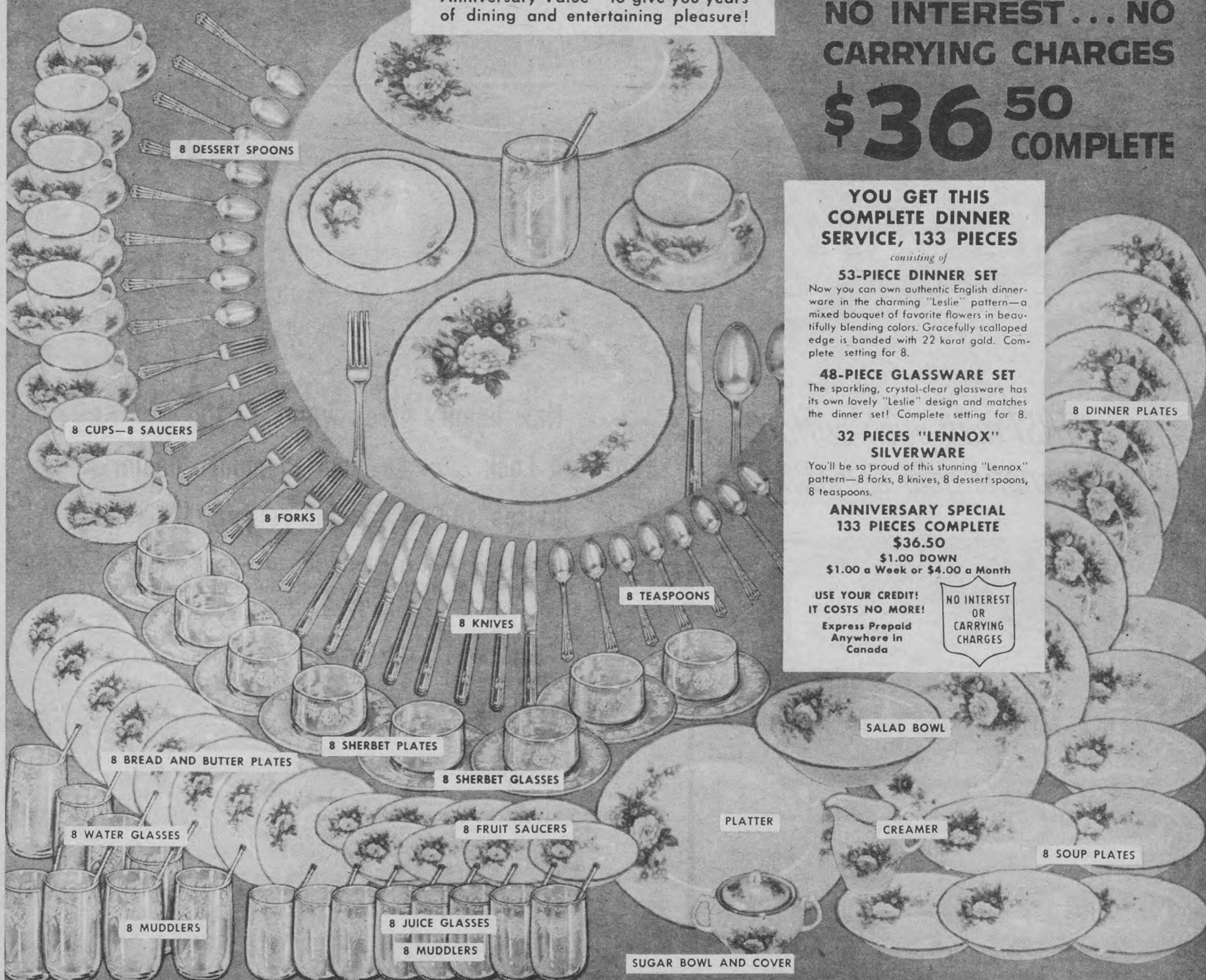
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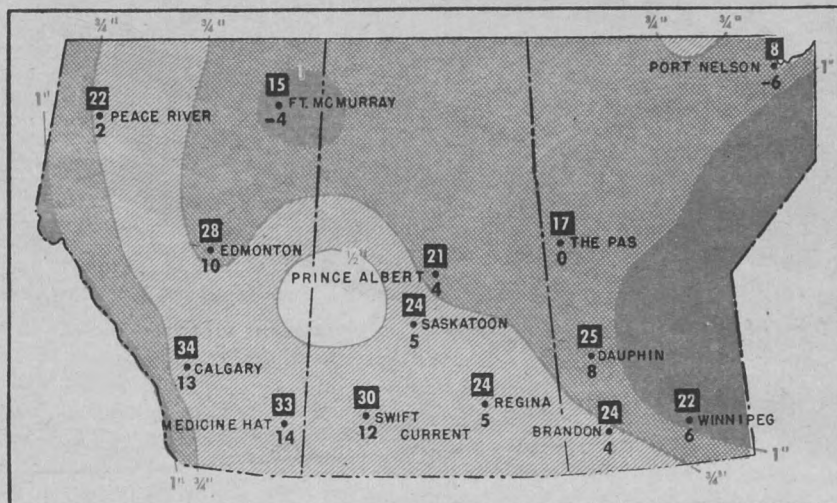
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Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff
for

THE *Country*
GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



AVERAGE WEATHER NOV. 15 - DEC. 15

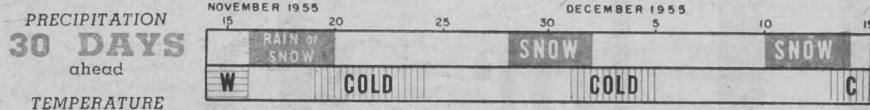
KEY: TEMPERATURE 30 Max. 22 Min. PRECIPITATION Average Inches During Period

Alberta

It will be cold in Alberta, and quite reminiscent of 1951. Mean temperatures will average from four to eight degrees below normal. Temperatures as low as 50 degrees below are expected in northern Alberta, although 25 to 35 below will be more typical of the Peace River basin. Minimum temperatures of from 15 to 25 below will be recorded in the North and South Saskatchewan River basins. It will be especially cold during the first two weeks of December.

About average precipitation is expected, although heavy snowfall will be experienced in the south. Snow cover should persist after the stormy period expected in late November and early December. Total snowfall for the period should range from six to 12 inches on the plains and considerably more in the Rocky Mountains.

Ranges and pastures will become relatively inaccessible to livestock after December 1. A lack of chinook winds will inhibit alternate freezing and thawing.



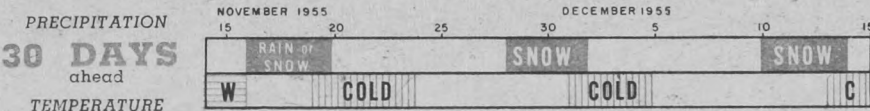
Saskatchewan

In contrast to last year, when temperatures averaged close to 12 degrees above normal, cold weather is in prospect in Saskatchewan. Temperatures will average six or more degrees below normal. Aside from initially mild weather in mid-November, the cold will persist through the entire period. Temperatures will drop as low as 20 to 30 degrees below zero throughout the province—even to 40 below in the North Saskatchewan River basin. On about a half-dozen days maximum

temperatures will remain below zero.

Precipitation will be moderately below average. Total snowfall will range from six to 12 inches. Snow cover should be persistent at most stations, although often but a trace at lower elevations.

Grazing opportunities for livestock will be considerably below average, necessitating heavy use of supplementary feeds. Little alternate freezing and thawing will be experienced and fall rye and forage crops will escape major injury.



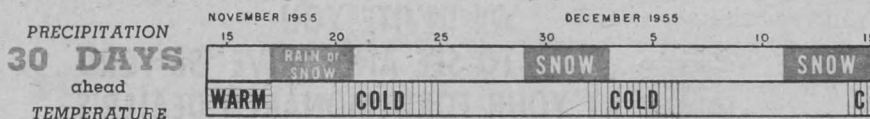
Manitoba

It will be very cold in most of Manitoba. Temperatures in the south will average four to eight degrees below normal. For those of you in the Hudson Bay region, more seasonal temperatures are in prospect. Generally speaking, minimum temperatures from ten to 20 degrees below zero will be experienced in the November cold periods, and 30 to 40 below zero in December.

Precipitation amounts will approximate the historical average. However,

a greater proportion will occur as snow, than is usually the case. From five to ten inches of snow are expected at most stations. Except for the first few days of the period, a trace or more of snow should be on the ground at all times.

Supplementary feed requirements for livestock will average well above normal. Both small grains and forage crops will be induced into early dormancy. Snow will limit accessibility to livestock of frozen growth in pastures. Curling prospects are excellent.



Do you need an EXTRA ROOM OR TWO?



If you need more room in the farm house for the children, more accommodation for hired hands, more all-round convenience for everybody in the home, a spare room for visitors... or if you simply need more space for relaxation, don't let a shortage of ready cash stop you from going ahead with building plans now.

If your proposition is sound, there's money for you at the B of M... in the form of a Farm Improvement Loan. Talk it over with the manager of your nearest B of M branch this week.



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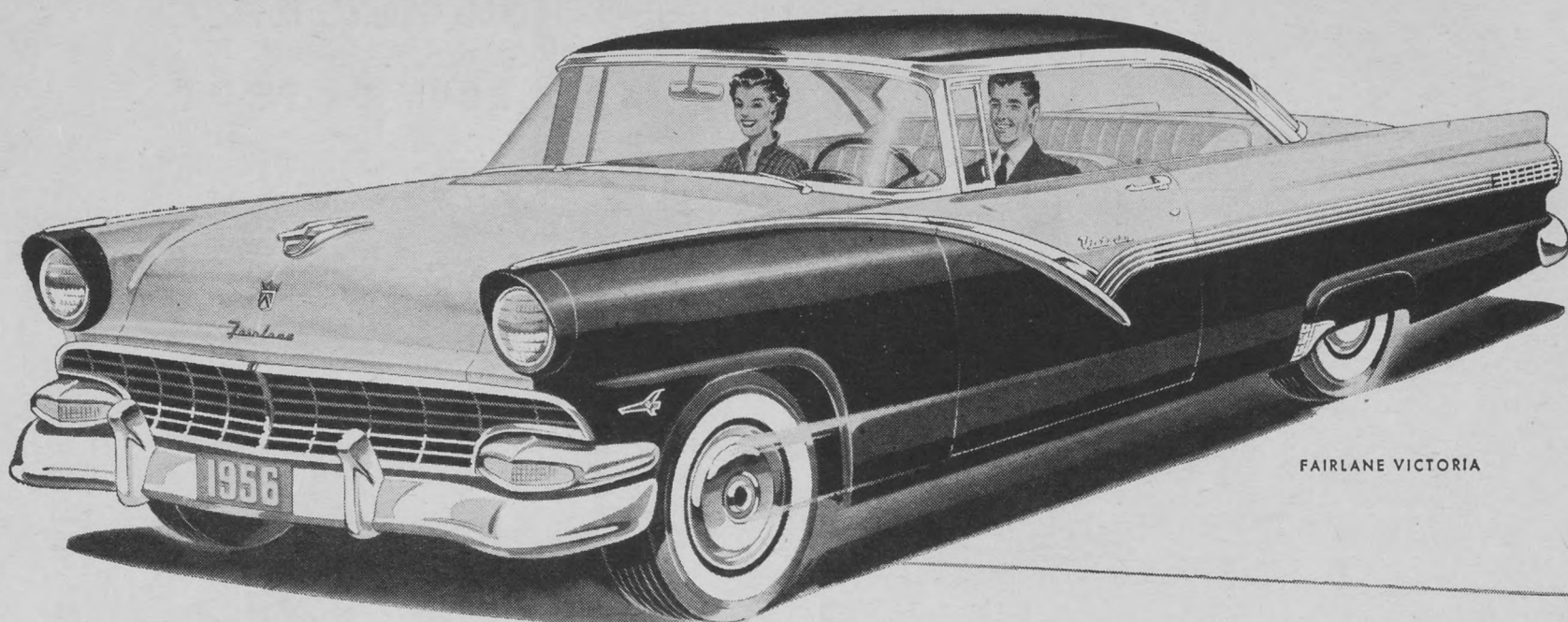
FIL — the fixer... his full name is Farm Improvement Loan. Give him a chance to help fix up your farm... he's economical, convenient, versatile. He can do almost anything in making your farm a better farm.



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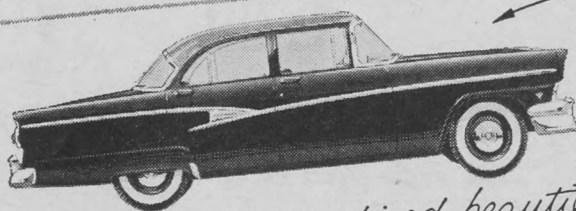


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*A new concept of car-building
Styled for tomorrow—
with Lifeguard design
for today's needs!*

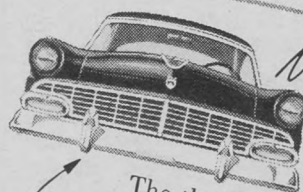


*17 Thunderbird-inspired beauties
in 4 challenging new series...all with
completely new Lifeguard design*

Ford for '56 brings you three vital advances in modern motoring: new, lower, longer-looking styling, inspired by the famous Thunderbird; new Thunderbird Y-8 power; and a new concept of safety planning—Lifeguard design! Inside and out, the '56 Ford has the look of a leader—in its wider, more massive grille, new wrap-around parking lights, big new jet-tube tail lights, slim, sleek new silhouette.

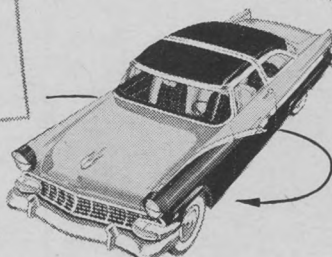
*New! Lifeguard design
planned for modern safety needs*

Ford's new Lifeguard design is based on two years of research in co-operation with safety experts. It includes a deep-centre steering wheel that cushions impact in the event of an accident; double-grip door latches for extra safety, designed to prevent doors springing open; optional seat belts and padding for instrument panel and visors.



*New! Thunderbird performance
from a more responsive
deep-block Y-8 engine*

The thrillingly responsive 202-Hp. Thunderbird Y-8 engine is standard on all Fordomatic-equipped Fairlane and Station Wagon models, while on Customline and Mainline models with Fordomatic Drive you get the ultra-responsive 176-Hp. Y-8. Both these great new engines give you the new smoothness, quietness and flexibility of deep-block Y-8 design!



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worth more
when you sell it!

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TO SEE AND DRIVE '56 FORD
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(Certain features illustrated or mentioned are "Standard" on some models, optional on extra cost on others.)

Mexican Agriculture

MEXICO has at least something in common with Canada: it has very large areas which are not suitable for the cultivation of crops. It is about one-fifth the size of Canada, but much of the country is very mountainous; consequently its total cultivated area, though increased by more than one-third in the last ten years, is still only about 21 million acres, or about as much as Canadian prairie farmers devote to summerfallow each year.

Unlike Canada, with its great expanse of northern plains where wheat is grown so abundantly, much of Mexico is so mountainous, particularly in the south, as to be both picturesque and relatively inaccessible. The coastal plains are extremely hot. The heart of Mexico is the central plateau, which lies between two long mountain ranges, or cordillera, of the Sierra Madre. In such a country, temperature, elevation and rainfall vary widely, the latter amounting to as much as 100 inches per year in some areas.

The central plateau is not a flat tableland, but is broken by mountain ranges and gorges, or barrancas, hundreds of feet deep. The southern part of the plateau contains some of the most productive land in Mexico, but the northern part is desert, or semi-desert, unless irrigated.

Mexico's principal crops for export are cotton and coffee. Last year the cotton crop was worth approximately \$220 million, and the coffee crop \$140 million. Between them, cotton and coffee account for almost half of Mexico's total farm production, which is now valued at \$760 million, as compared with about \$420 million ten years ago.

During recent years the government has brought an additional 800,000 acres of land under cultivation and plans to double this figure within the next three years, principally by means of extensive irrigation projects now under construction. Other factors that have increased farm acreage in Mexico according to the Rural Economy Board, are a policy of easier and improved government credits through agricultural banks, the wider use of modern techniques, including mechanization, and favorable market developments.

The Mexico Department of Agriculture has now announced that it will increase its expenditures on agricultural production by 25 per cent, with a view to providing more encouragement to the production of such important domestic crops as corn, beans, rice and wheat.

Mexico is making substantial progress as a wheat producing country. Unfortunately, this year, frost

and unfavorable weather blasted Mexico's hope of becoming self-sufficient in this crop. It was predicted earlier in the season that no imported wheat would be required during 1955, but a short time ago the Department of National Economy undertook a survey to determine the amount of imported grain that would be needed to supply domestic needs.

Mexico hitherto has purchased most of its imported wheat from the United States and Canada. Three years ago imports amounted to 400,000 tons, but in 1954 good harvests were secured and local demand was supplied, except for the imports provided under the International Wheat Agreement. This year, when the largest wheat crop in the history of Mexico had been expected, frosts, drought, and disease destroyed 35 per cent of the winter wheat crop.

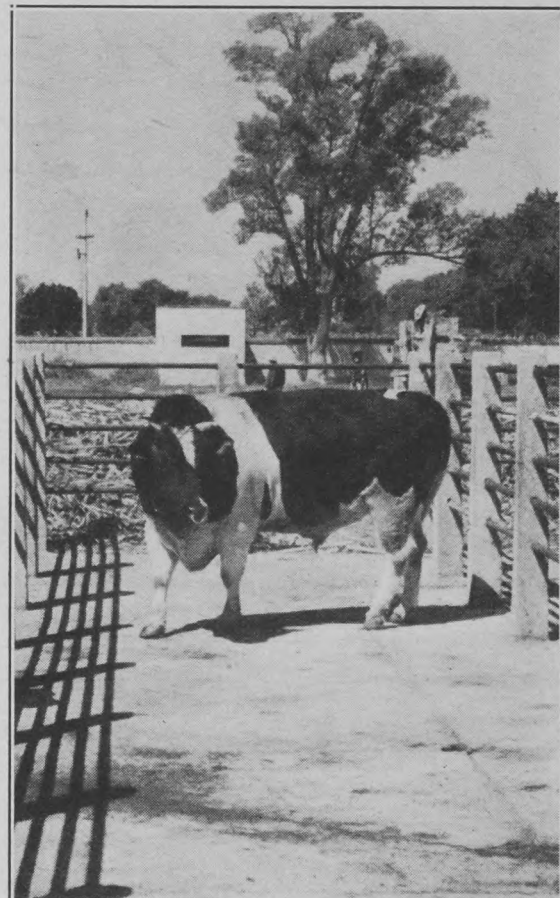
The government, however, is still determined to push through its plans for increased wheat production. Ricardo Acosta, a high official in the Department of Agriculture, has announced that government experts are locating farm lands sufficient to produce the wheat needed for the domestic market, with surpluses earmarked for export. Recent successes on agricultural experiment stations have made it possible for wheat production to begin this year on a major scale in the states of Chiapas and Tabasco, deep in the south. It is also expected that about 125,000 acres will be planted to wheat this year on the expropriated hacienda in Chihuahua, which was formerly owned by publisher William Randolph Hearst. This land is expected to yield about 80,000 tons of wheat.

Most state governments are co-operating in this agricultural drive, and in the campaign to make the republic a sufficiently large wheat producer so that surpluses can be exported to Central American countries. One result of the drive is that farm income has been increased, and this has created new consumers for other goods and services.

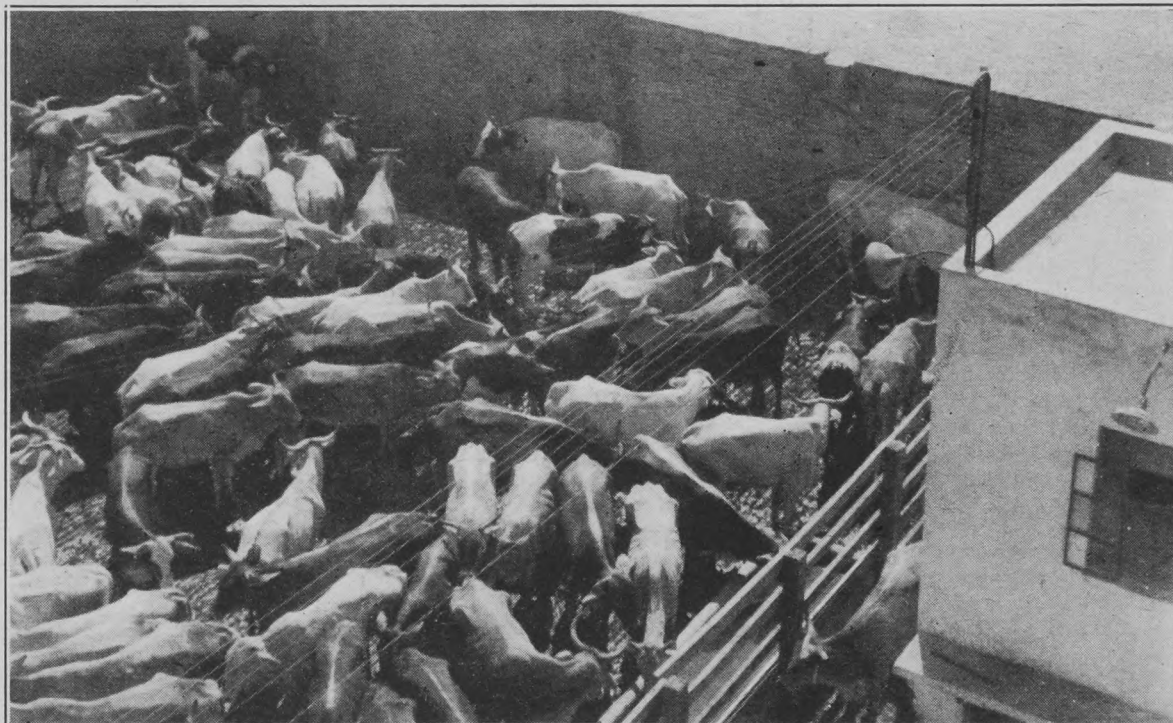
LAST year, as part of its new deal for Mexican farmers, the government inaugurated the Integral Farm Insurance Program. Now, for the first time in Mexico, private enterprise is actually offering farm insurance, under government supervision by the Department of the Treasury, to cover drought, hail, floods, frost, windstorms, plagues, and other diseases, sufficient to guarantee the costs incurred by farmers up to the time the crops are planted. The insurance program is based largely on studies of crop insurance as operated in the United States and Europe. (Please turn to page 52)

With more than half again as many people to support, on a land one-fifth the size of Canada, Mexican agriculture is relatively undeveloped

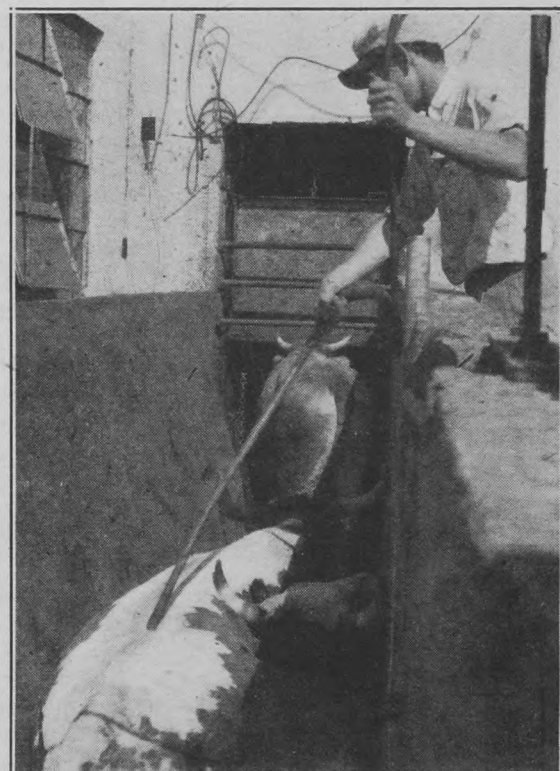
by EMIL ZUBRYN



At Mexico's Chapingo Agricultural Station animals developed from various breeding bulls are studied.



High-walled corral with Zebu cattle awaiting slaughter in pens in Mexico City's modern slaughterhouse. Slaughterhouses are supported by a semi-official government credit agency to stimulate the industry.



Animals going up chute to slaughtering mechanism. About 1,300,000 cattle are processed every year.



Rose had just put her arms around my neck, when I caught sight of Mr. Wrycjowski surveying us from the brow of the hill.

Pain Killer

by JOHN PATRICK GILLESE

Queer things happened in our family that spring when I entered into a jingle-writing contest, because of my sense of musical appreciation. Rose, who had come to help with the cooking, was waiting with the family when I came back from town with the parcels

PLOWING in the Alberta bush country gave you time to worry without being disturbed. I needed it that spring of '23—I had so many worries I could classify them.

Around the house, I worried about Pa and the homestead. In the fields, I kept worrying about how far Jay Cramer—our neighbor across the line—would get ahead of us this year. Jay always managed to get ahead of us in everything, something that infuriated Father more than all the other troubles of homesteading together.

The rest of the time, I worried about Mr. Wrycjowski's daughter, Rose. I never suspected a man like Mr. Wrycjowski could possibly have a daughter as wonderful as Rose; till she came up from Saskatchewan, where she'd been looking after her grandmother.

The first time I went out with Rose, all she could talk about was going back to Saskatchewan. The second visit, she said she was really getting to love the Alberta bush country. Somehow, by the time spring plowing started, we were talking about getting married and leaving our parents to look after themselves. It was hard to reason with Rose, especially when she had her arms around your neck and was talking a blue streak—but how in the world could a man look after a wife and nine kids (Rose thought that would be nice for a start) when I didn't even have a house to put them in?

Pa had promised me a share of the crop last year—till the frost came. Harder than the dense bush and the endless work or even the death of your animals, it was to see your grain, one day waving high and heavy in the August heat, then suddenly white

and lifeless in the wind. Since the frost, all Father could promise me was the utter ruination of our homesteading career if I didn't start using my head.

At the land's end again, I interrupted my worrying briefly to rise on the sulky plow and stand with my right foot on the trip (the trip catch was broken) while MacDuff, our best ox, jostled his three companions heavily onto the stubble.

"Stan-ley!" Faintly on the aimless wind, I heard my father calling from the barnyard. His voice sounded a bit hoarse, and I wondered if he'd been calling long.

"Stan-n-n--"

"All-l right! Coming!"

Unhitching the oxen for dinner, I suddenly noticed MacDuff "favoring" his left shoulder. When I edged my hand under the sweat pad, my fingers came out sticky with blood. Knowing Father, I suddenly acquired a new worry.

The oxen headed for the yard at a speed out of all ratio to the way they headed for the field. We were in front of the barn in five minutes. My kid brothers took over. Bub was already hurrying to fill the mangers with musty greenfeed from the stack bottom. As Ed uncoupled them, each ox moved mechanically to the rusty wooden water trough, drank slowly, then found his right stall in the barn.

I went over to the old seeder, which Pa was repairing, wondering how he was feeling. Pa had been cooking four weeks already; and as Mother said, a man sees things differently when he has to eat his own cooking. In the days when Mother was well,

Pa used to fascinate us with stories about his campfire cooking back on the Kansas plains. So when Mother got ill, Father was the unanimous choice for cook.

"You're sure getting the seeder into shape, Pa," I said cheerfully, wondering if MacDuff's shoulder would miraculously heal in an hour.

"Aw, the inferno with it!" said my father. "This old wreck was done five years ago, and your catching it on a fence post last spring didn't help it any. I planned on a new one this year, but having to buy seed grain sets a man back, Stanley. Much as I

detest that little reprobate, I can't help but think you might do well to emulate him. There are always unforeseen opportunities for using your head to turn a dollar. But here you are, grown to man-size, and you haven't even filed a piece of land for yourself."

"Father," I said, "I think MacDuff's left shoulder is soft."

Pa crawled out from under the seeder. He gave me a look. He went to the barn, threw the harness off the big ox and critically examined MacDuff's left shoulder. Then he gave me another look.

"Stanley, did you or didn't you use the currycomb on him this morning?"

"Well, I think so, Pa. I think his sweat pad's too thin . . ."

"You think so?" he said. "What with?"

"The good heaven above us and the inferno below us! You'd think a fellow come to your time of life would think about what he's doing. You'd think . . . Good heaven!" Pa said, "the dinner!"

Mother was up, taking a smoking frying pan off the stove. She looked white and thin in her nightgown.

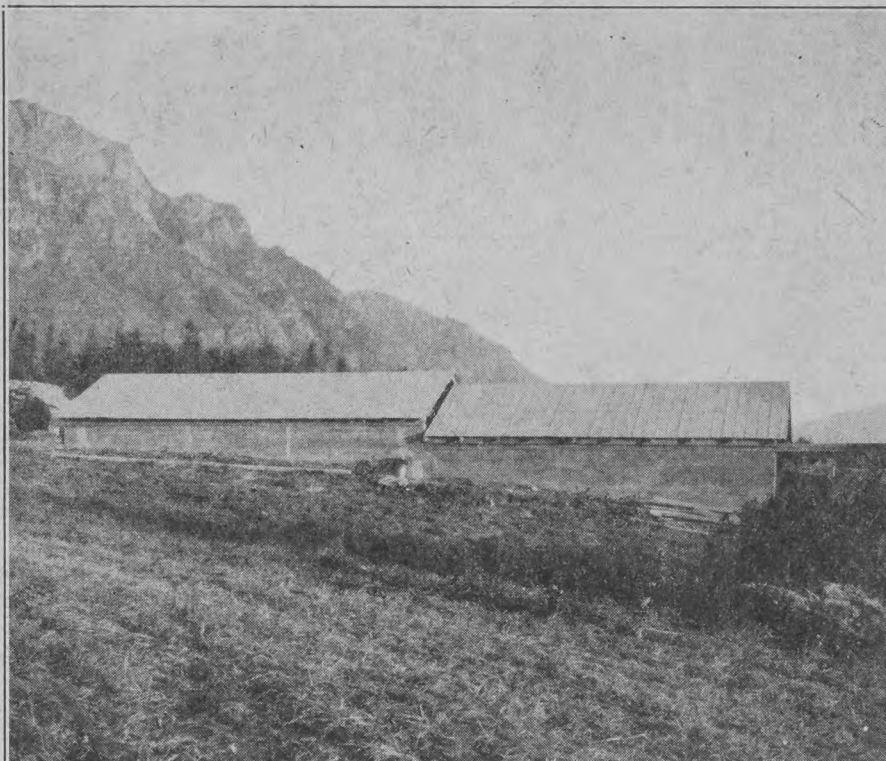
"Nellie," roared my father, "what're you doing out of bed? I can do all the cooking needed around here. You won't be helping me any by causing me a funeral bill."

"A body gets tired lying, Sam," protested my mother, but she went obediently back to bed. After her operation in March, the doctor said her heart wasn't too strong; he
(Please turn to page 44)

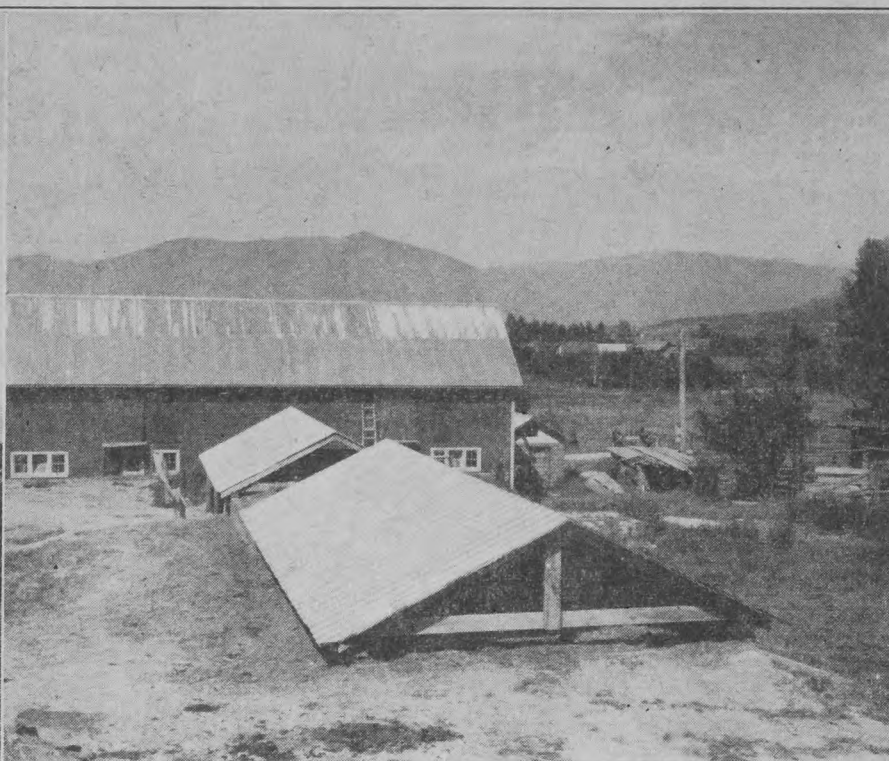


detest that crooked little Jay Cramer, do you see how smart he is? He didn't rush to sell his grain like all the other homesteaders. Not Cramer—he kept plenty back, knowing that some day the opportunity would come to get double the price. Stanley, much as I

Illustrated by Clare Bice



View of Wilf Houle's covered pit silo, showing split-level aluminum roof and concrete walls. The rugged Selkirk mountains serve as a colorful background.



Looking from rear of the silo. Note lightness of roof construction, and, on left, dirt fill which enables loaded wagons to be driven directly alongside for dumping.

[Guide photos]

He Built a Better Silo

Low production costs, high quality hay, and an expanding milk market, brought the Houles to Creston Valley

by C. V. FAULKNER

THERE'S an old saying, "If you build a better mouse trap the world will beat a path to your door." If the same thing applies to silos, Wilf and Annie Houle of Willann Farm, near Creston, B.C., will soon be having a lot of visitors, because they've built one of the best horizontal-type pit silos The Country Guide has ever seen.

For one thing, the site is just about perfection for that type of construction. Dug into a rise of land a few yards east of the barn, the silo is 50 feet long, 12 feet high, tapers in width from 10 feet at the bottom to 12 feet at the top, and has a capacity of 120 tons. It has concrete walls and a hardpan floor; during the excavation, the major part of the earth removed was dumped along the silo's south wall to bring the ground up to the level of the top of the concrete so that loads of forage could be driven alongside and dumped down into the pit. A special feature of the structure is a sliding aluminum roof that protects silage from the weather, and at the same time can be quickly opened when another cutting of grass or alfalfa is ready to go in. Although the temperature can drop to 10° below zero in winter, there's no freezing in the pit, and spoilage is limited to three or four inches on top of the pile.

The roof is built in two sections, so that one pulls off onto the high ground at the rear, and the other slides forward on beam ends which project beyond the end of the silo. To open the forward section, a tractor is backed into the well of the pit and hitched to a pulley arrangement; when the tractor is driven out again, the section moves out on the extended beams. The same machine can be unhooked and driven around to the back of the structure to pull off the roof's rear section. It's a neat, workable arrangement, which gives the Houles a silo with all the advantages of the permanent upright type, minus the latter's high cost and other disadvantages. But it took more than the building of a silo to make this Creston Valley dairy farm the thriving enterprise it is today.

If you want to make a success of dairying you have to like it, the experts say, and Wilf and Annie Houle would be the first to agree. But they would also add that good stock, good land, and a ready market for fluid milk have a lot to do with it too. For 20 years they farmed on marginal land with a herd of grade cows near the mining town of Kimberley, in the Rocky Mountain Trench. In 1947 they moved west to the clover-rich clay benches of the Canyon district, near Creston, got some good registered Ayrshire stock, and, to use another old saying, they've "never looked backward since." To Mrs. Houle, the move was actually a homecoming, for part of Willann Farm is located on land farmed by her parents since 1914.

ROCK-RIMMED by the mile-high Kootenay and Selkirk mountains, Creston Valley is the most important agricultural area in southeastern British Columbia. In the valley bottom, 20,000 acres of reclaimed diked land along the Kootenay River produces spring and fall wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, and peas. On the irrigated benches above, apples, cherries, prunes, pears, peaches, apricots, and strawberries thrive, and dairy and beef cattle raising is on the increase.

"This bench land hay has the highest protein content of any in Canada," Wilf Houle told The Country Guide. "We sure didn't make any mistake when we moved down here."

By their stock production records, they didn't make any mistake when they decided to switch to R.O.P. cows, either. The Willann Ayrshire herd has 20 milking cows out of a total of 50 head, the remainder include heifers, dry cows, and the herd sire, U.B.C. Commodore Victor. All daughters of the latter have averaged over 40 pounds of milk a day, testing at four per cent. Out of 26 head recently classified, four were judged excellent, six very good, eight good plus, and eight good.

Willann Farm now totals 95 acres in all, which includes the original (Please turn to page 50)



Front end of the pit with the tractor in position to pull forward sector of roof out onto extended beams.



Milking time rolls around, and Wilf Houle is busy attaching a milking machine to one of his cows.

Corn and Soybeans Move Eastward

Earlier maturing varieties provided by plant breeders have added two valuable crops to Ontario's most easterly area

by DON BARON

FOR years, farmers in eastern Ontario, especially in the triangle created by the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers, have been looking longingly, and perhaps a little enviously, toward the easy diversification of southwestern Ontario. In that multiple-cash-crop area, fields of corn grown for grain yield two, three or even four times the feed value per acre that their own oat and barley crops normally produce, because corn is a valuable energy feed for livestock, and has been acclaimed as the grain crop with the highest per acre value of any that could be grown.

About a dozen years ago the longing was intensified when soybeans achieved commercial importance in Canada—again in southwestern Ontario. Viewed along with corn, which is a starchy, high-energy feed, soybeans had something of the aura of a wonder crop. They were high in protein—35 per cent or more—the very nutrient which oats, barley and corn all lack.

Climate, however, withheld the advantages of corn and soybeans from eastern Ontario for a long time, and confined farmers largely to oats and barley for home-grown feed grain.

But climate, though a tough adversary, could not withstand the onslaughts of modern farm science. Today, farmers of the Ottawa Valley and adjacent areas are able to grow varieties of corn and soybeans profitably. Plant scientists, working in their laboratories, greenhouses and on their field plots have widened the range of adaptability of these crops, and have produced varieties which will grow under the more severe conditions of eastern Ontario.

Early corn hybrids began to make their way into the shorter-season country eight or nine years ago, when some Wisconsin hybrids proved to be adaptable. These at first included Wisconsin Nos. 240, 255, 275 and 279 which were able to make a good showing. Then, from the plant breeders at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, came Warwick 150 and Warwick 250. These were followed by Warwick 210 and Warwick 260. With these varieties and more to choose from, farmers of the area are now able to accept corn for grain as an established crop.

It was not until 1953 that eastern Ontario farmers got their first real chance to grow soybeans. In that year, Dr. Fred Dimmock, at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, brought out the early-maturing varieties Acme and Comet. Working with soybeans was not new to Dr. Dimmock. He had begun soybean breeding work as far back as 1924, at the Harrow Experimental Station in southwestern Ontario. He watched the crop become established as a valuable cash crop in that area. In eastern Ontario, early fall frosts came too soon for the commercial varieties then available, and the plants were too often nipped by the frost before they were ready to harvest. The new early maturing varieties have gone a long way toward solving that problem.

The practicability of the crop was fairly well proved that year, too, by the staging of a soybean growing competition. The first-prize winner grew 40.5 bushels of soybeans per acre, while the runner-up harvested 38 bushels, and the average for 12 growers was 28.7 bushels. No wonder that more and more growers have tried these new crops successfully in the succeeding two years!

One of these is George Bracken, who milks about 40 cows on his Manotick farm. He recalls that, only



A mechanical corn picker harvesting hybrid corn in the Ottawa Valley. The need for specialized equipment is one of the disadvantages in harvesting corn, but most farmers can hire it on a custom basis.

four years ago, he was purchasing about \$1,200 worth of concentrates for his herd each year: today this cash cost has been eliminated by soybeans.

Tom Dickison is even more enthusiastic. Years ago he grew soybeans between the corn rows on his Quebec farm. Later, when he took over the management of the 900-acre Ottawa Dairy Farm at City View, Ontario, he found this method unsuccessful and stopped growing soybeans. Four years ago, with some new varieties available, he began again. Since then, yields have averaged 20 to 25 bushels per acre, including a wet year in 1954, and a very dry year in 1955. He insists that he would not be without soybeans as feed for his 125-cow herd.

For three years earlier his sons, Tom and Bill, grew corn for grain as part of their 4-H club work. The corn did so well that he saw an opportunity in this crop to greatly increase per acre production. A 60-bushel crop did not seem out of the way for his district, and he had read that a crop of this size meant 3,190 pounds of T.D.N. (total digestible nutrients) per acre. This looked very high alongside a 60-bushel oat crop yielding only 1,460 pounds T.D.N.

Now, after six or seven years, he has failed only once to have a good crop of corn. Last summer the unusually severe drought hit the corn crop hard; so hard that at silage time he was fearful that it might prove to be a failure, if left for grain. Consequently, he chopped it down and rushed it into the silo, thus securing a good crop of silage in a year when roughages have been in short supply.

GARNET RALPH is another dairy farmer who has taken corn and soybeans to his heart—though under slightly different circumstances. A graduate from the Kemptville Agricultural School, he plunged into debt on graduation, by buying 400 acres of land at Richmond, east of Ottawa. With heavy interest payments to keep up, he had to make the farm work hard for him. Both corn and soybeans promised sizable returns, and he included them in his rotation. Now, although he sells a great deal of his production as seed grain, he is convinced that corn and soybeans have a place on every livestock farm, in areas where they can be grown.

He vividly recalls the summer of 1954, when army worms cleaned out most of the oats and barley in his area. Neighbors who depended on these grains were forced to buy feed, but Garnet had corn in the bin to carry his herd of 65 milk cows over winter. Formerly, his dairy ration might run half corn-and-cob-meal, and half oats. Last summer he fed pure corn-and-cob-meal as a supple-



Unlike corn, soybeans are harvested with a combine like this one on an eastern Ontario farm.

ment to his sun-scorched pasture. This winter he plans to buy western oats and barley to mix with corn and soybeans.

After growing 25- to 30-bushel crops of soybeans and 80-bushel crops of corn, he is certain that both crops have a place on every 100-acre livestock farm. He puts it this way: "Three or four acres will produce sufficient protein for the rations. Another seven or eight acres of corn will provide additional feed; and that makes most of the farmer's winter grain supply."

Farther south, at Vernon, Neil Lee has been growing corn for six or eight years on his dairy farm. He has to depend on the lower prices received for manufactured milk, so that costs must be cut to the bone. Corn has given him twice as much, or more, T.D.N. per acre, than oats or barley. Surveys made by the Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture have convinced him that the costs of growing corn are about a third higher than the cost of growing oats or barley. Notwithstanding this higher cost, however, he wouldn't think of dropping corn from his program, because it still leaves him a nice, healthy margin.

Another farmer in eastern Ontario, who has tried both crops with success is (Please turn to page 70)

Lumbering Giants Live Again

Excitement grew and the sparks flew as 3,000 tongues wagged when old-timers met again in Manitoba for a threshermen's reunion

by RICHARD COBB

IT was quiet among the trees at Austin, Manitoba, and it looked as if the silent old monsters would never move again. Their joints stiff after long years of breaking the prairie sod and sending the grain flowing out across the world, they seemed to have found a last peaceful resting place among the falling leaves.

Then the threshermen arrived for the Second Annual Threshermen's Reunion. The old-timers and young enthusiasts came with wood to stoke the fires in the big steamers, and with cans of gasoline for the thirsty old engines; and suddenly it was like old times again. The trees trembled with excitement as the steamers started to roll. The early gasoline tractors coughed, shook off the rust, and threw up clouds of smoke and oily soot. The separators were hauled out of hiding, dignified, but ready to go.

Out into the pasture they went, in a triumphal procession of giants. These were the machines, looking somewhat ungainly now, which had speeded up the opening of the West to agriculture, and helped to make Canada a major influence in the world.

The main event of the Threshermen's Reunion was a competition for "setting an engine." A Case steamer had to be unhitched from a separator, turned around so that the engineer could place the belt from the separator onto the steamer's fly-wheel, then backed up to put tension on the belt, and the machinery set in motion.

Competitors were of all ages. One old-timer explained this by saying that it was still a favorite country pastime to "play about with old machines, take 'em apart, and get 'em going." So many wanted to try their skill that the competition spilled over into the following day. The best time was recorded by Albert Berney, of Angusville, who completed the manoeuvre in one minute, eight seconds, breaking the existing record. The champion in the gas-engine class was W. M. Stewart, of Neepawa, whose time was one minute, twenty seconds.

EVERY second man in the crowd of 3,000 appeared to be an expert, who had at one time earned his living while working with steamers and separators. There was much criticism of an amiable kind. "She's not lined up properly," some said. "Too slow," said others. And finally: "That's more like it." But, fast or slow, they were enjoying every minute of it.

J. Mair, of Souris, looked back over his 81 years, remembering the sod hut where he had lived, and the times when oxen and horses turned the wheels that threshed the grain. He was thinking, too, of the days when the steamer was king, and was happy to see it back in the limelight.

Also from Souris was H. Pettinger, who left his native Yorkshire more

than 50 years ago, but had proudly kept his accent and his love of the Yorkshire dales, through half a century of farming in Manitoba. "However," he said, "this is the country to live in. Something new is discovered in the Canadian soil practically every day, and no other land has a future to compare with it."

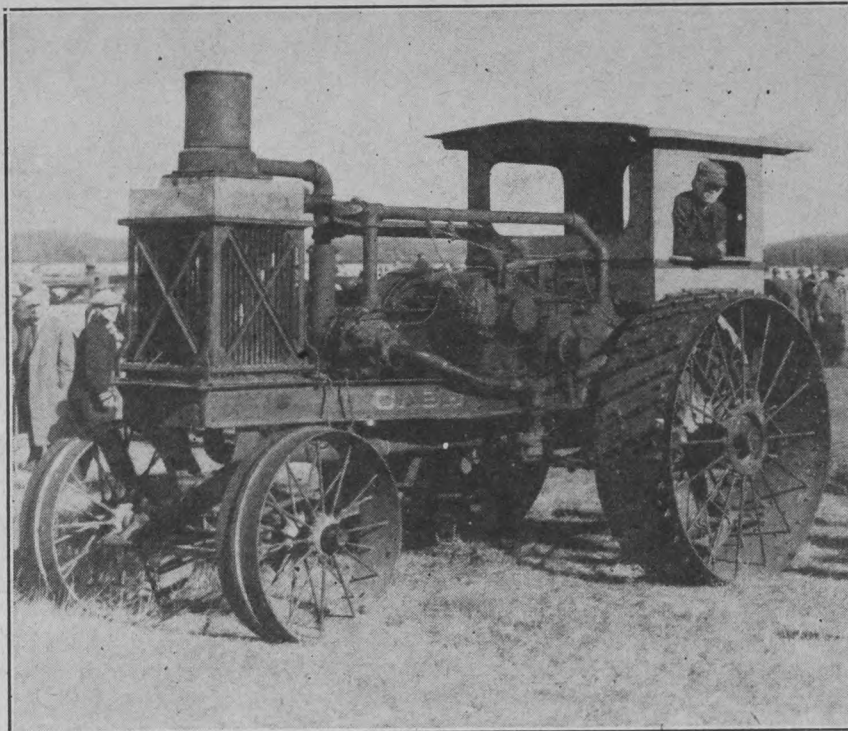
But while men talked, their eyes kept turning to the steam engine, as it backed menacingly toward the spectators, and then swerved suddenly to line up with the separator. Breaths were held while the engineer took up the belt, and sighs of relief greeted the sudden roar and clatter as the separator came to life.

J. T. Ross, secretary of the United Grain Growers Local at Treherne since 1918, looked back on the threshing he had known in Ontario, with 12 horses driving the tumbling bar for the separator, while another horse with a rope was bucking the straw. Mr. Ross, who had farmed in Manitoba since 1888, was spending the day making sure that the machines, which he had used so often, were being handled properly.

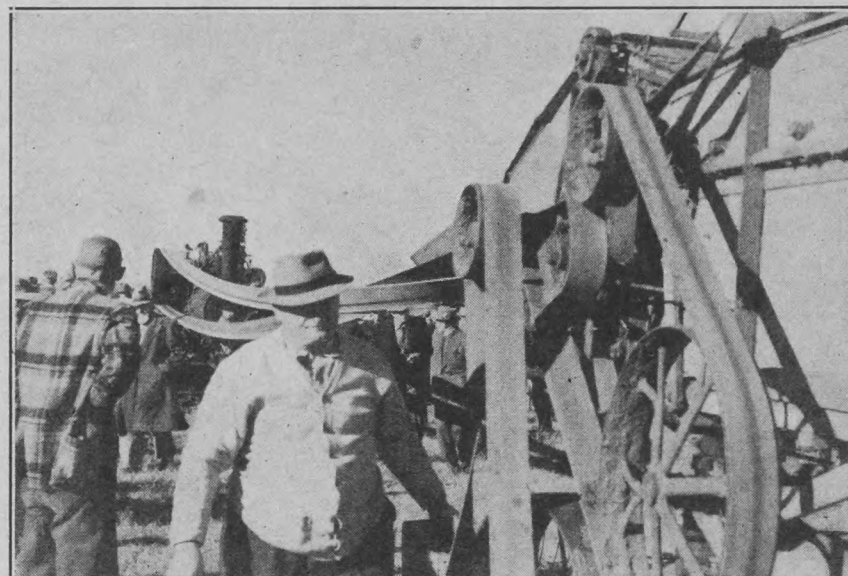
Noble Burton, a farmer at Franklin for 40 of his 68 years, had brought a flail with him to show how his forefathers threshed; and was also giving a demonstration of binding sheaves by hand, as he did when he followed his father's temperamental binder.

A perfect, quarter-scale model of the Case 28-80 steamer puffed solemnly round in circles on the grass. It was made by Wally Vann, who has served with the Winnipeg Fire Department for the past 33 years, but had spent his boyhood on the farm.

(Please turn to page 77)



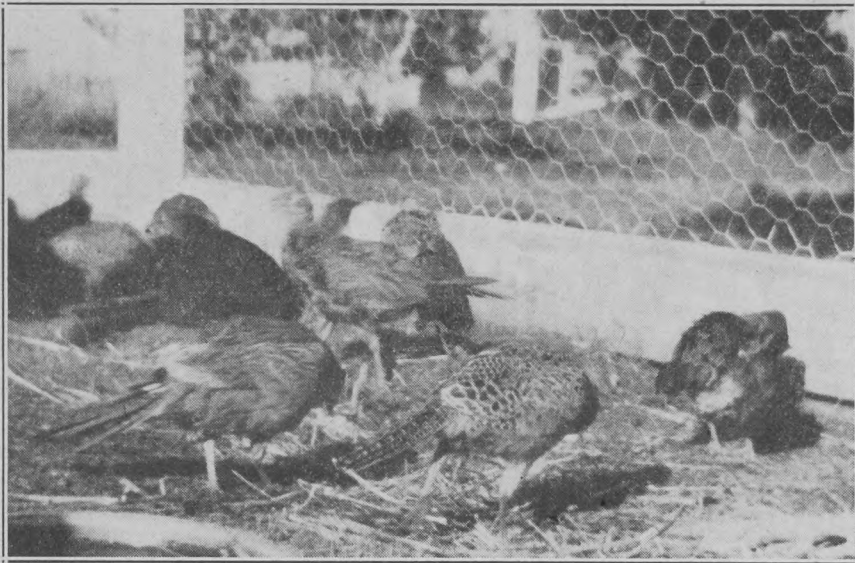
Kenneth Down, aged 13, brought his father's old Case gasoline tractor, made in 1915, to the Threshermen's Reunion at the Manitoba farm museum.



The main feature of the Reunion was the competition to set an engine. The picture shows a Red River Special separator belted to a Case 20-60 engine.



Noble Burton, of Franklin, showing a flail of the type used by his ancestors when threshing grain. Other old-timers at the Manitoba Reunion (right) were J. Mair and H. Pettinger, of Souris, and J. T. Ross, who comes from Treherne.



The flighty pheasant is poetry in motion, but most photographers would prefer a bird that stays still long enough to enable them to snap a picture.

Game Bird Gamble

Game bird farmers are game birds themselves when it comes to taking a chance on a crop that is delicate to raise, hard to handle, and commands a very small market

by DON MEADE

OUTSIDE of the gaming halls of Nevada, no one gambles like the farmer. He takes a chance on the seed he plants, then keeps his fingers crossed for good weather to make it grow. When the product is harvested, he hopes for a stable market. Farmers in B.C. are no exception, over 100 of them are now gambling with game birds that may never get to market.

In the Pacific Coast province, sale for pheasants and Chukar partridges largely depends upon the government. Each year, the Game Commission buys only about 10,000 birds for liberation. Their appropriation allows for no more, and the game commissioner could easily obtain the whole requisition from a few of the larger game farms. Still, B.C. pheasant farmers increase their flocks, and insist that game farming is a good gamble for the future. Perhaps a mere fascination for pheasant raising keeps them interested.

One of the largest B.C. layouts, the Hollywood Game Farm on Lulu Island, began 24 years ago with a flock of two cocks and four hens. The farm is owned by pet-loving Bill Petts and his brother Ed. Tall, easy-going bachelors, the Petts brothers never seem to be doing any work, yet they keep everything spick and span.

On their 6½-acre farm, they raise 2,300 pheasants each year. Some of these sell to the B.C. Game Commission in crates of 24 at \$2.25 to \$3.25 per bird. Of course, the Petts brothers' birds are exceptionally healthy, and that is the first requisite when selling to the game officials. Fast birds also get preference; if a bird is fast on the get-away, the more chance he has to survive, and from the sportsman's point of view, the more sport is enjoyed.

According to the Petts, a cross between Mongolian and Ring Neck pheasants is the best. This cross develops the weight of a Mongolian with the speed of a Ring Neck. For show stock, the Chinese

Golden pheasant brings a fancy price. Strutting his glossy, red, yellow, green, and black plumage, the Golden pheasant is poetry in motion, and brings from \$10 to \$100 per bird. Of course, Golden stock must be privately sold.

For best results when breeding pheasants, the brothers put six hens with one cock in a single pen. In bad weather, birds must be protected from wind and cold. When entering or leaving pens, special care has to be taken lest a bird flies out the door. Once a pheasant escapes, he never comes back, no matter how well you've cared for him. Exceptionally wild birds have to have their wings clipped.

The timidity of a pheasant makes his care more difficult. When Ed and Bill Petts enter a pen, they talk in low tones, and move, slowly but confidently, directly to the feed boxes. They do not look at the birds. If you stare at a pheasant, it goes berserk—one false move and the flock becomes a thundering, blurring mass of feathers. In minutes, they'll pound themselves to pieces against the wire partitions and ceilings of their pens. They are especially frightened of strangers.

TO catch pheasants for shipment or, to change to other pens, the Petts bring a long-handled fish-landing net into play. Carefully, they drop the net over a bird and transfer him to the crate. Some farmers use special catching pens. Pheasants are so timid you are very lucky to get a picture of them. As soon as a strange object, such as a camera appears, the birds scuttle like liquid silk to the far end of the pen.

Recently, the brothers had a fine picture of a full-grown, Ring Neck cock in natural haunts. Gun clubs and dozens of others besieged them for copies. No one had ever gotten such a close-up of a full-grown cock pheasant in natural surroundings, and everyone wanted to know how they did

it. Before telling, Bill and Ed had more of the negatives made, then they let out the secret. One of their male birds had been accidentally killed in the pen. They had him stuffed and placed in the tall grass such as he might habitate if he were alive, and snapped the picture.

Besides pheasants, the Petts raise Mallard ducks, Guinea fowl, bantam hens and budgies. Included with their pets is a team of Shetland ponies that have pedigrees from three countries, as long as your arm.

The brothers sell Mallard ducks to gun clubs. This market also takes dozens of pheasants to train bird dogs. Recently, they hatched some of their pheasant eggs under bantam hens with considerable success. They started the budgie business with five pairs. Now, they ship as far east as Montreal, and get about \$10 a pair. However, if the budgies are first taught to talk, the price is much higher.

Soon after entering the pheasant-raising business, the Petts learned that it's a full-time job. Birds cannot be neglected, for they need constant attention. But if the raiser starts in a small way, a husband and wife team can give proper care with a minimum of overhead.

Compared to poultry raising, Bill Petts says the pheasants prove more profitable. When he first came to Lulu Island from England, he and Ed tried poultry, but they soon failed. The pheasants paid off better, and once understood, were less trouble to attend.

Pheasants require higher proteins than other poultry. Turkey starter with bone meal and meat scraps should be fed for the first eight weeks, then pens can be moved over heavily greened plots. Even if the greens are grass and weeds, pheasants will pluck them down to the earth. In the morning if water containers are empty, you can see the pheasants scissoring (Please turn to page 74)



These Chinese Ring Neck pheasants, when crossed with the heavier Mongolian strain, produce a sporting breed that is well fleshed, and fast on the get-away.



The ground was in good condition, and the weather was sunny for the 42nd International Plowing Match and Farm Demonstration at Leamington, Ontario.



Fourteen plowmen took part in the Canadian championship tractor plow class, which was narrowly won for the second time by Bob Timbers, Stouffville.

Accent on Plowing

WHEN Bob Timbers, 28-year-old York County farmer, from Stouffville, emerged as champion plowman at the 42nd International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration, it was the third time that his skill as a plowman had won him a trip to Britain. His win this year also gained for him the right to represent Canada at the fourth World Plowing Match, to be held in October, 1956, near Oxford, England.

Timbers will be accompanied next year by Edwin Demmans, 22-year-old farmer from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, who was third-prize winner in the championship class.

Second-prize winner was Jerry Ferguson of Croton, Ontario, who, the previous day, had beaten Timbers in the Ontario championship class, but was disqualified from the trip overseas by an Association ruling which permits only one plowman from any province to win such a trip in any year.

Fourteen plowmen competed in the Canadian championship class, and they represented all provinces but Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland. Each contestant was required to plow in both sod and stubble. Fourth place was also acquired for Manitoba by Jim Bonnar of Roland; and fifth and seventh places for British Columbia by Sven Swanson and Tom Hick-

*Echoes from the 42nd International Plowing Match,
and the quest for the Golden Plow*



Fine horses, such as these, were among the 47 entries in the horse-plow competitions, which have been a feature of the International since 1913.

man (tied), both of Chilliwack. Rene Renaud, St. Eustache Deux Montagnes, Que., was sixth, and W. Stanley Willis, Cornwall, P.E.I., tied with Hickman for seventh.

THE plow is a very ancient implement, probably dating, in some form, from around 6,000 B.C., when Neolithic man began to till fields, herd domestic animals and to live in villages. Even at the beginning of the early bronze age, about 3,000 B.C., plows, hoes, and sickles were made of wood, the latter having flint teeth.

So ancient is the plow in the tilling of the soil that it is regarded as the symbol of agriculture. In England, still, in some localities, gaily decorated plows are carried in procession on Rogation days, immediately before Ascension Day, as symbolic of the crops of the coming season, on which blessings are asked.

What more natural, then, that the plow should have symbolized, also, the skill of the husbandman, more particularly after man finally achieved a wooden plow with an iron point, which, ever so slowly, was shaped and specialized until it reached its heyday as an animal-powered implement about the time the horse reached the pinnacle of his usefulness.

(Please turn to page 72)



The Western Ontario Cash Crop Day was held during plowman's week. Here is a sugar beet harvester.



The traditional plowing scene, with horses and man working in unison, has not lost its appeal.



The educational exhibits included this forage harvester, chopping stands of corn for direct ensiling.



*"He's my very own,
isn't he, Dad?"*

You can probably imagine your boy in this situation, or recall it if he already has a dog of his own. He deserves the things that make him a happy youngster. But, are you taking steps now to ensure his happiness later on? Will he benefit from a complete education, and will his natural talents be encouraged and developed? These are the things that mean happiness and security to a grown boy, but they also mean a substantial financial outlay for his parents. If you open a Savings Account at Imperial Bank of Canada, and save regularly, you'll have the money later to provide these essentials for your child. Save today and you will be making sure he will have everything a boy—and his Dad—could wish for.

IMPERIAL
"the bank that service built"

Science And the Farm

Farm scientists sometimes have to do some things that may appear useless, before they can solve farm problems

W. H. Davies, the poet, wrote a well-known poem about leisure. This is the way it began:

*"What is this life, if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare,
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows."*

Both sheep and cows have plenty of leisure. This, and the fact that neither sheep nor cows have to spend time at night turning and tossing in an effort to go to sleep, are about the only advantages we have been able to think of that could result from being a cow. Actually, Doctor C. C. Balch, Institute for Research and Dairying, Reading University, England, says cows have to stand and stare during the daytime and keep awake during the night to get their cuds properly chewed, which takes up about eight or nine hours of their time every day. This means that cows sleep very little, and then only very lightly. This applies, however, only to healthy adults. One distinct disadvantage in being a cow is that chewing the cud takes up a lot of time, and during that time the animals, including sheep, have to lie down, or stand in certain ways, so that the thorax is in an upright position. Consequently, keeping the cow's head in an unsupported, more-or-less-upright position, means that she can't doze off and sleep, for fear her head will drop and interfere with her digestive processes. ✓

Tomatoes taste like roses smell. University of California researchers have taken apart the flavor of the tomato, which they find to be a blend of three odors plus many secondary flavors. Such odors as rose, violet, lemon, peppermint, caramel, vanilla, carrots, citronella and sulphur, each make its contribution. The researchers wanted to find out how to preserve the best taste in tomato paste preparations. They concentrated the flavors from two to ten tons of tomato juice, into a thimbleful of a yellow oil, and by separating the various concentrated flavors, discovered certain chemical compounds believed to be responsible for off-flavor in tomato products. ✓

Deep roots help plants to resist drought. Grasses with roots that penetrate very slowly are less drought-resistant. Scientists have found that Coastal Bermuda grass can go down eight feet within three months of planting, and tap water in the lower depths in dry periods. They placed radioactive phosphate fertilizer at different depths in sandy soil, and checked the depth of the roots by noting, with a Geiger counter, whether or not the roots reached the radioactive phosphate layer. ✓

Crystallized fruit juice, especially of orange and grapefruit, which will dissolve quickly in cold water, store up to six months, and is difficult to tell in color, flavor, or aroma, from freshly squeezed citrus juice, is already being marketed. The secret involves two chemicals plus vacuum-drying by controlled heat. One chemical called

sorbitol traps and holds the essential oils and esters that carry the citrus flavor and fragrance: the other is a drying chemical in a small envelope inside each can of crystals. ✓

The mystery of photosynthesis may be solved inside of ten years. This is the natural process by which plants make sugar from water, air and sunlight. Scientists know already how the carbon dioxide of the air and water are converted into sugar, through the action of helpful chemicals called enzymes. What the scientists do not yet know is how the energy of the sunlight is converted into a form that can be used in this process. Scientists at the U.S. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, in Tennessee, say that if the world were starving, we now could produce food on a large scale, because of the knowledge of how to make sugar in a test tube. ✓

Five tons of whey contains about as much plant food as one ton of animal manure. This is the conclusion of A. E. Peterson, of the University of Wisconsin. Thus, says Peterson, a farmer can apply 50 tons of whey per acre and get about as much plant food as in ten tons of manure. There will be no injurious effect on the crop. Each thousand pounds of whey contains about one-and-a-half pounds of nitrogen, one pound of phosphate acid and two pounds of potash. If purchased, these nutrients would cost very little. Only danger might be from some diseases, where very large quantities of unheated or unpasteurized whey were applied; and not then, if cows were kept off the field until the whey was well soaked into the ground. ✓

Riboflavin, or vitamin B2 is important in fortifying human food, and in feeds for poultry and small animals. It is now being produced commercially by a recent fermentation process developed at the Northern Regional Research Laboratory of the U.S.D.A. The vitamin can be produced commercially from inexpensive raw materials, such as glucose, animal stick liquor (a packing house by-product) and corn steep liquor (a by-product of corn wet-milling). Two forms of riboflavin are produced, a high potency syrup and a higher potency powder. Tests show that they have excellent nutritional value; and fed to chicks, give the feed efficiency equal to pure riboflavin. ✓

Consumers get only about a third of the total tonnage of vegetable crops used in the U.S. More than four million tons of waste leaves, tops, husks, cobs and vines are unsaleable. Much of it is rich in proteins, minerals and vitamins. Now a method has been found for converting these leafy vegetable wastes into nutritious meals that can be fed to the livestock and poultry, or used as a source of valuable chemicals. Broccoli, carrot, lima bean and turnip-leaf meals fed to chickens, at eight per cent of the diet, were equal, or superior, to alfalfa meal in feed efficiency and growth promotion. ✓

Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WITHIN a month the federal Liberal party lost, in by-elections, a couple of seats that belonged in the stronghold category, and had a narrow escape in another. These experiences have not exactly caused latter-day Gibbons to start compiling notes for a history of the decline and fall of the present government, but they have silenced for the time being most of the talk about its invincibility.

It's perfectly true, of course, that the government lost a number of seats prior to the general election of August, 1953, and then was returned triumphantly with a majority reduced merely from mammoth to elephantine size. Quite possibly, the same pattern is being repeated now. By-elections usually depend a great deal on local issues and personalities; it isn't often nowadays that they represent a real test of strength, a case of coming events casting their shadows before, as did, for example, the Arm River provincial contest in Saskatchewan, back in 1928.

This time, however, the self-appointed experts on Canadian politics are not quite so certain that recent Conservative successes are to be explained away by the desire of the electorate to pick someone they like regardless of his affiliation, or to strengthen the opposition in the interests of parliamentary democracy.

This time, the experts are taking note of the fact that the Conservatives made an astonishing show of strength in three out of four predominantly French-speaking constituencies in Quebec and New Brunswick, as well as in the predominately trades union riding of Toronto-Spadina in Ontario.

SPADINA is an interesting case. Two strong personalities had held the seat for the Liberals for a quarter of a century, and the recently elevated Senator Davy Croll did his best to keep it in the government column. He didn't succeed, perhaps because the voters of Spadina were irked because their former member had been translated to the Senate instead of the cabinet. Less than half of them bothered to go to the polls. The weather was bad, but not bad enough to prevent the Conservatives calling out those who had supported them in 1953, and a few more besides. So they turned a 1953 deficit of some 9,000 into a majority of close to 600.

Meanwhile, the other parties in the Spadina contest remained much as they were before, except that the C.C.F. candidate ran fourth and last instead of third. His deposition by a Communist can be accounted for, no doubt, by the personal factor.

Mr. Solon Low was among those who found satisfaction in the Spadina result. Yet his own group, Social Credit, has failed so far to show any sign of strength east of the Great Lakes. In the most populous sections of the country, the Conservatives are emerging as the only political party likely to offer a real challenge to the government at the next general election.



It is beginning to look like that even in Quebec, where resentment against the "centralizers" at Ottawa is being capitalized on by the federal Conservative party, rather than by some other aggregation.

These trends suggest that when the federal-provincial conference on fiscal relations, health insurance and other issues is resumed, there will be a still greater effort on the part of the present government at Ottawa to show that it hasn't the slightest design on provincial autonomy. A fair-minded person might say that it never had; that the tax rental agreements were only designed to place every province in a position to discharge its responsibilities under the constitution in such matters as education, health, and road-building, and that each province was left free to spend its revenue as it saw fit, with no obligation except to its own electors. But this concept of provincial autonomy has not appealed to some parts of the country, certainly not to the present regime in Quebec.

So the federal government is busily trying to find a formula for tax sharing that will be acceptable to all provinces. If it is to be of any real worth, that formula will be simply another means of sharing the nation's wealth among its component parts. It will have to recognize federal rights just as much as provincial rights, for only through the federal government's unrestricted powers of taxation—direct as well as indirect—does it seem possible that a genuine sharing of the wealth can be achieved.

THESE considerations may be elementary enough in the West, but they are not quite so plain in the central provinces, where most of the big national corporations are centered. Nor is it well enough understood in these parts that a redistribution of the total tax take is a matter of equity rather than of charity. The tariff structure that has made many of these industrial enterprises possible in Canada is rather taken for granted.

If it is really true that the Conservative party is at last presenting a threat to the present government—if for no other reason than that people don't like any party to keep power too long—then Conservative views on this basic problem of federal-provincial relations will bear close watching right across the country.

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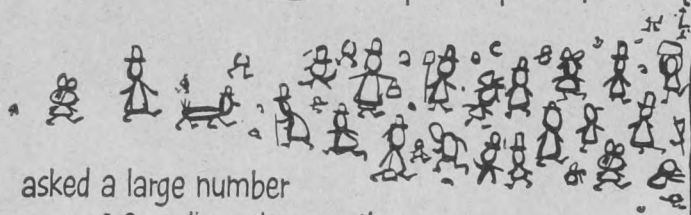
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FOR MEN AND BOYS

THINKING ABOUT PROFITS ?



The people who conduct
public opinion polls



asked a large number
of Canadians this question:



"How big

a profit do you think the
average Canadian company makes?" Most people
thought it was nearly 28% on the income dollar.

Then these people were asked what profit they
thought a company **ought** to make.
Most of them thought it was

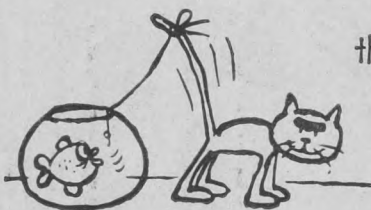
about **half** as big
as that, or
around 16%.

Actually, Imperial's
profit last year was less



than **one-third**
of what people thought
we made, or a
little more than 8%. Of
this, just over 4%

was distributed to Imperial's shareholders.

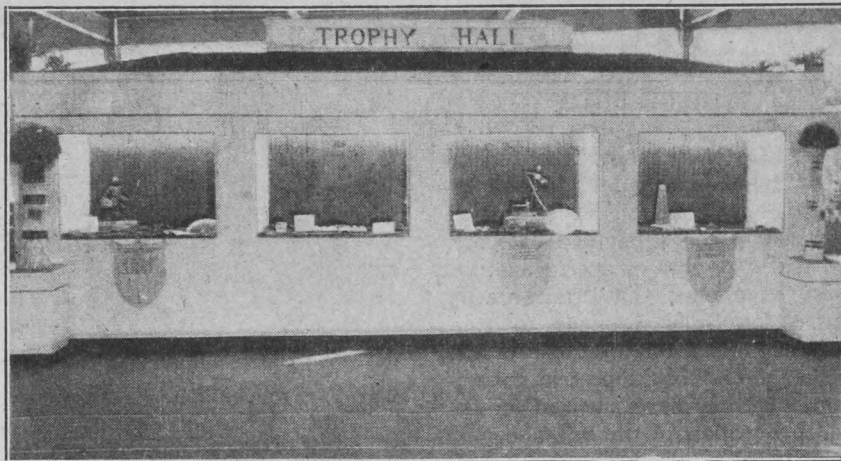


The rest went back into
the business,
to help replace worn-out
equipment and
meet future needs.



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



The coveted trophies, always a big attraction at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, are displayed again this month in the Trophy Hall at Toronto.

Finnish Clover Offered Alberta

A STRAIN of red clover which has been developed by Professor Otto Valle, director of the Tammisto Agricultural Research Center at Tikkurila, Finland, might be adopted for use in Alberta. Called Tammisto, the new strain has been tested in Finland with the Altaswede variety grown in Alberta, and was found to be superior in winter hardiness. One of the cereals of the Tikkurila station, Olli barley, has already found favor in the Foothills province, and it is hoped the new clover will prove equally successful. V

Processed Milk Supply Situation

IN spite of a hot, dry summer in Ontario and Quebec, milk production in Canada is expected to be about the same as last year. A recent meeting of the Ontario Concentrated Milk Products Board was told by D. B. Goodwillie, Dairy Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, that favorable conditions in other parts of the country had helped to maintain production, but there was also 2.4 per cent more dairy cattle on June 1 than a year ago. V

Helping Farmers With Heart Disease

THE work capacity of farmers with heart disease is being studied in Washington county, Iowa, by the American and Iowa Heart Associations. Known as the "cardiac-in-agriculture program," it will start with a one-year pilot study, in the hope that it will lead to similar projects in other rural areas.

A team of medical and vocational experts will evaluate the work capacity of cardiac farmers, with the object of helping them to remain active within the limits of physical capacity. In addition to a thorough medical examination and study of the farmer's abilities, his own farm operation will be surveyed.

If a farmer can continue in his normal routine, with some modifications, he will receive advice from the County Agricultural Extension Service on the changes needed, and how to make them. If he cannot continue to work on his farm, the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will advise and train him for another occupa-

tion. His own doctor will be asked to co-operate in follow-up studies.

An investigation of different farm tasks in terms of energy required was started a year ago by the Indiana Heart Foundation, and Purdue University. This project will take five years, with the idea of developing time- and work-saving methods for farmers with heart disease. V

Grass Tanks

THREE big tanks towering above the rich farm land in the Fraser Valley near Chilliwack, B.C., are designed to preserve the vitamin A content of dehydrated grass and to allow for bulk handling of the product. Grass meal will be stored in the tanks in inert gas, oxygen being gradually diluted until there is little or none left, thus keeping the vitamin A content at its original level.

The tanks are 30 feet in diameter, 24 feet high, and hold about 250 tons of grass meal apiece. Meal is carried from the dehydration plant by overhead automatic screw conveyors, and dumped into the tanks; a similar device, working from the bottom of the tanks, removes the meal when desired. The product is shipped all over Canada for poultry and dairy mixes.

The new installation takes dehydrated grass out of the perishable class, and makes it possible to store the meal indefinitely. Shipments can be made in bulk, or the meal can be conveyed back to the plant for packing into paper sacks. V

Square Deal For Heirs to Farm

DIVIDED inheritance of a farm specializing in livestock, poses a serious problem for the son remaining on the farm. When the estate is being settled, he may find that he cannot raise sufficient capital to buy out the other heirs, and there is a danger that he will have to sell the farm and lose much of the work he has put into its development.

This is particularly serious in fluid milk production, where the establishment of a high-producing herd takes a long time, and involves such other issues as a balance in production between pasture, fodder and grain.

B. J. Bain, who is conducting a study of dairy costs for the Alberta Department of Agriculture, says that sometimes fathers and sons complete

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CASE "300"

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

the business details of taking over the farm long before death occurs. First a value is agreed on, and then the son commences the purchase on a yearly payment basis. A portion of the payments goes to the parents, according to their estimated needs, and a further portion is paid off gradually to the other heirs, which gives them their share of the estate as set out in the will.

In this way, the family farm is carried on as a continuous productive unit, and the second generation can build and improve on the efforts of the parents, instead of having to start all over again. Especially on livestock farms, continuity of development has a very direct bearing on regular and satisfactory net income. V

Holland Marsh Marketing Scheme

ABOUT 150 farmers in the Holland Marsh vegetable area, north of Toronto, voted unanimously in favor of investigating the possibilities of setting up a vegetable marketing scheme recently. Their proposals have been forwarded to the Ontario Department of Agriculture, and if the Department approves, all farmers in the area will be given a chance to vote on it.

A former marketing scheme, which vegetable growers voted to discontinue last spring, was a negotiating body, to meet dealers and set prices. The dealers paid the producers directly, and the only other function of the board was to buy up surpluses and try to dispose of them.

The new plan is for a marketing agency which would sell all produce, pay producers, and set up an inspection center. V

Hudson Bay Grain Record

PORT CHURCHILL, Manitoba, established a new grain-handling record this year. It is reported that from August 1 to October 10, a total of 38 ships loaded 13,077,845 bushels of Manitoba and Saskatchewan grain at the Hudson Bay port. This was an increase of 592,952 bushels over the previous record year, 1954, when 36 ships cleared the port with grain before the end of the shipping season. The last ship sailed from Port Churchill on October 17 this year. V

Ontario Holsteins Popular

GLENAFTON NUGGET, bred by G. J. E. McCague, Alliston, Ontario, was named Grand Champion Holstein Bull at the Sao Paulo Exhibition, the leading cattle show in Brazil, this year. Nugget was bought by Dario F. Merceilles, of Sao Paulo, at the Sale of Stars, following the 1953 Royal Winter Fair at Toronto. It had earned the title of All-Canadian Two-Year-Old of 1953, and sold for the top price of \$8,000.

Canadian Holsteins are in demand. Three hundred purebreds, the largest single shipment since 1940, left Oakville, Ontario, for Peru recently. Another 300 heifers will follow soon, and seven bulls and four females have been shipped to Spain. V

Embryo Test For Barley Seed

FACILITIES for the embryo test on barley seed, replacing the system of field counts of smutted barley heads in the growing crop, have been set up by the Canada Department of Agriculture, at the request of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association.

The Association felt that counting smutted heads did not give a true indication of the amount of true loose smut in the seed from the crop. A barley crop might be free from smut at the time it was inspected, but the seed could become infected at flowering time, by spores blown from a neighboring barley crop.

The embryo test, developed by pathologists, permits an actual count of the number of seeds infected with true loose smut in a representative sample. The seed is treated so that infection in the embryos is clearly defined, and the embryos are then examined under microscopes for the count. When the smut infection is higher than four per cent, the seed will not be graded as registered, nor can it be sold as registered seed. V

1955 Wheat Higher in Protein

THIS year, the Canadian spring wheat crop is high in bushel weight, and higher in protein content than it has been since 1951, according to the Grain Research Laboratory, Board of Grain Commissioners. The milling yield is good, and although flour ash is higher, flour color is better. Gassing power and absorption are at desirable levels, doughs are lively and extensible, and baking strength and carrying power are normal for Canadian wheat of 13 per cent protein.

Bushel weights of wheat cleaned for milling are 65.2, 64.5, 63.2, and 62.8 pounds for grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 Northern. Protein contents for these grades are 12.8, 12.9, 13.2, and 13.0 per cent, respectively. The average weighted protein level is 13 per cent, compared with 12.6 last year.

Although No. 3 Northern is highest in baking strength, No. 1 has greater reserve baking strength. All four grades continue to show their characteristic of improving the baking quality of weaker wheats.

The new durum crop is high in bushel weight, with adequate protein content, and very good macaroni quality. The 17-million-bushel crop is the largest in many years, and more than half of it is expected to grade Extra 4 C.W. V

Manitoba Marketing Proposals

SEEKING wider powers for the Manitoba Marketing Board, the joint committee on producer marketing legislation, representing the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation and the Manitoba Farmers' Union, presented a brief to Hon. R. D. Robertson, Minister of Agriculture, recently.

They asked that the Board be given power to hear representations and study plans submitted to them, hold public hearings, and recommend marketing plans to the minister. V

When Replacing Remember...



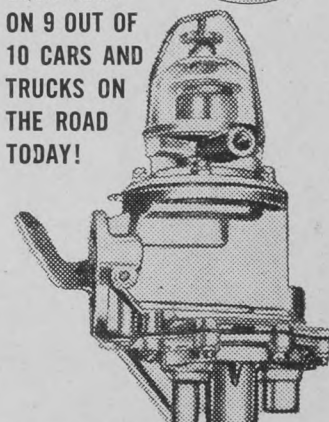
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Get It At a Glance

Farm problems and activities reported from here and there across the world

Begun in Iowa, a new farm organization known as the National Farm Organization, whose purpose is to combat the decline in farm income, has spread to Missouri, South Dakota, and Minnesota during the past two months. The membership is reported to include 5,000 farmers. Among their aims are price supports for hogs and beef cattle, and crop loans at 90 or 100 per cent of parity. V

Freezer stocks of pork in Canada totalled 6.3 million pounds on October 1, compared with 6.9 million pounds a year ago. Frozen beef holdings were 8.2 million pounds, or two million pounds heavier than last year. V

"Wind, water and ignorance," says a report from Spain, are being attacked through a master farm control scheme to hold the soil that is blowing away at the rate of millions of tons a year. A new law will give the government powers to dictate methods of cultivation. V

About 6,000 kangaroos were counted recently on a farm in New South Wales, Australia, which also had less than 20,000 sheep. A series of close seasons and the low price offered for kangaroo skins are said to be responsible for the growing menace. V

Freight assisted grain and millfeeds shipped from western Canada to livestock feeders in other parts of the country amounted to 2,166,000 tons in the 1954-55 fiscal year, compared with 2,260,000 in 1951-52. The amount paid in assistance was \$17.4 million in 1954-55, and \$17.1 million in 1951-52. V

Butter smugglers are using aircraft to get cheap Dutch butter across the Belgian frontier, and sometimes armored cars are used to crash through frontier barricades at more than 50 miles an hour. V

Self-imposed levies by livestock producers, similar to those used to promote other farm products, are recommended by Dr. R. B. Corbett, president, New Mexico A. & M. College. He claims that, with the advent of self-service stores, it is now highly important for the agricultural industry to promote the sale of its products by establishing the desire to buy. V

The Australian Government has launched a 12-month publicity campaign to sell foodstuffs in Britain. The government is contributing £160,000 to the campaign, and marketing boards and food industries will be expected to provide about £100,000. Food exports to Britain from Australia total about £100 million a year. V

Hog exports from Canada during the first 34 weeks of 1955 totalled 496,000, including pork cuts, canned hams and live hogs. This represented 13.3 per cent of gradings. In the same period last year, the total was 426,000, or 13.8 per cent of gradings. V

A serious drought has reduced crop yields drastically in the eastern U.S.S.R., where there has been a large expansion of acreage, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Despite this, production of wheat, oilseeds and sugar beets has increased for the country as a whole. V

A rice crop of 260 tons from 61 acres, nearly double the expected yield, was harvested this year by R. H. Sellwood, Yenda, New South Wales, Australia. V

The limited market for Canadian apples in the United Kingdom, and strong international competition, make it necessary to ship only better grades, according to the Canada Department of Agriculture. It recommends "Canada Extra Fancy" and "Canada Fancy" grades for all varieties except Golden Russet, which may be shipped at the minimum Canada "C" grade. V

A special crops substation will be operated by the Experimental Farms Service at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Originally a substation for flax research, it is being extended to include studies with field peas, sugar beets, sunflowers, rapeseed, and soybeans. It will be administered by the Experimental Farm at Brandon. V

"Senior Foods" are a recent innovation in the United States. It is estimated that there are 18,300,000 people over 60 years of age in the U.S. With them in mind, a leading food processing company is marketing special beef, lamb and chicken stews, and is preparing desserts with particular reference to nutritional value. V

Well known to farmers as a farm radio broadcaster, and more recently as organizer of "Country Calendar," a weekly farm program on television, A. K. (Keith) Morrow has now left his post of Supervisor of the Farm and Fisheries Department of the CBC to become Co-ordinator of Radio. V

A wheat crop of 200 million bushels is predicted by the Australian Wheat Board. This would be a record for the acreage sown, which is about 10½ million acres. The total delivered to the Board, after deductions for seed and other requirements, would be 186 million bushels. V

A testimonial banquet was held recently at Lacombe, Alberta, to honor George Earl DeLong for his services to agriculture during the past 35 years at the Experimental Farm, Lacombe. He has been superintendent of the farm since 1947, and has now retired. V

Ontario led the provinces in September with an average daily production of milk per cow of 27.8 pounds, compared with the national average of 24.3 for cows milked. British Columbia came second with 26.1 pounds, and Prince Edward Island third with 25.4. V

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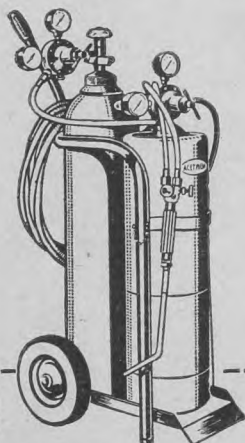
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LIVESTOCK



A herd of Ayrshires feeds well all year round from this British Columbia pasture. Strip grazing and pasture rotation leave enough for some silage.

Program for Grade A Market Hogs

Vegreville Co-op Shipping Association members go after top hog gradings

by DON BARON

HOGS that will cut out "A" Grade carcasses are not too plentiful in Alberta, according to grading reports. In fact, only about 18 per cent of those going to market reach that grade.

But the fault doesn't appear to lie with hog producers in the Vegreville district, and especially those shipping through the livestock shipping association there. The Vegreville Livestock Co-operative Shipping Association awards prizes to producers shipping the highest percentages of top-scoring hogs through the Association and finds that the average is about 30 per cent A's. This year's winner, Bill Smith, scored 70 per cent A's from his 57 hogs shipped. His brother, Art Schmidt, was in second place with 61 per cent A's from his 154 hogs.

Considering that both are purebred breeders; that they selected the best of their pigs for breeding stock, and shipped the remainder to market, it is apparent that bacon type is well established in these herds. Even among commercial hog producers in the district, quality must be improving to retain a 30 per cent over-all average.

Bill Smith is employed as an elevator agent for the Alberta Wheat Pool, but also manages to run a farm and keep at least ten brood sows. He recalls that when he was only 14, and a swine club member, he first heard that Yorkshires were "the breed of the future." His older brother, Art, was a Berkshire breeder then, and scoffed at the idea that the white-skinned breed would be more suitable for their farm. But Bill needed Yorkshires for his club work, because he had his heart set on a trip to Toronto, and the Royal Winter Fair. He got the Yorkshires and won the trip, and now no other breed is even considered on the farm of either brother.

Bill, who keeps records of all his pigs, uses champion boars from Edmonton and Calgary shows. He breeds

them to his good brood sows, and carries on a careful feeding program to produce reliable breeding stock for sale, and top quality market hogs.

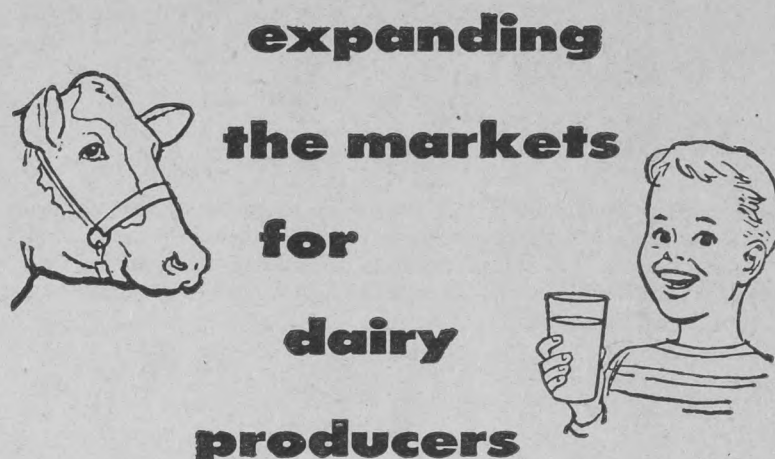
Art, on his farm just out of town, has strong ideas about raising pigs, too. Since he has only 68 acres of land, and must buy most of the feed used, he cannot be careless with pigs. He agrees that records are important, and emphasizes good care for the herd. He not only feeds iron twice a week from birth until they are feeding well, but sugars the creep feed to get them started early, and vaccinates for erysipelas. He mixes his own feeds, and adds vitamins, as well as protein supplements.

He is also a voracious reader. "Ten years from now, there will be tricks to pig raising that we don't dream of today," he predicts. It is a certainty that he will be among the first to use those tricks.

Good breeding stock and a sound feeding program are two of the factors that give the Vegreville district good hogs. But Bill Pidruchney, district agriculturist, can put his finger on another reason, too. Hog men have bought weigh scales. He has records showing that more than 70 have gone through his office. With weight such a critical factor, local hog producers are shipping their hogs to fit into those narrow limits.

More Dairy Cows

QUEBEC and Alberta each increased by four per cent the number of cows kept for milking during the past 12 months. This compares with a national average increase of 2.4 per cent, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Alberta also increased its dairy heifer population by five per cent, whereas the Canadian average showed a drop of 2.4 per cent. The



Four full years of advertising and sales promotion are behind for the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the fifth is nearing its close. Let's look at the Dominion Bureau of Statistics dairy industry figures for 1951 in comparison with 1954 to see what has been accomplished.

ANNUAL PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY FOODS 1951 vs. 1954

FLUID MILK AND CREAM	1951—314.4 PTS.	1954—314.1 PTS.
CREAMERY BUTTER	1951—19.17 LBS.	1954—19.28 LBS.
CHEESE	1951—5.70 LBS.	1954—6.26 LBS.
SKIM MILK POWDER	1951—3.72 LBS.	1954—4.72 LBS.
EVAPORATED MILK	1951—17.86 LBS.	1954—18.17 LBS.
ICE CREAM	1951—14.48 PTS.	1954—15.04 PTS.

In 1951 a total of 2,853,000 milk cows produced 15,309,971,000 lbs. of milk of which 13,016,218,000 lbs. were sold off the farm. In 1954, 12.7% more cows produced 16,853,621,000 lbs. of milk of which 14,739,063,000 lbs. were sold off the farm, 13.2% more than 1951. During this period Canada's population increased by 8.27%.

During this period competition of other foods and beverages for share of the consumer's food dollar, in terms of money spent on advertising and other sales promotion, was acknowledged to be the fiercest in Canada's history.

Here's how per capita consumption of dairy foods compared at the end of 1954 with 1951.

Fluid milk and cream practically unchanged at 405.2 lbs. or .88 pts. per day.

Creamery butter, up .11 lb. at 19.28 lbs.

Cheese, up .56 lb. or 9.8% at 6.26 lbs.

Ice Cream, up .56 pt. or 3.8% at 15.04 pts.

Skim milk powder, up 1.0 lb. or 26.8% at 4.72 lbs.

Evaporated milk, up .31 lb. or 4.3% at 18.17 lbs.

Canada is among the high five nations of the world in per capita consumption of dairy foods equalling 1027.4 lbs. of milk per year. To preserve and increase this market for dairy producers against the heavy promotional spending on all competitive foods and beverages is the objective of Dairy Farmers of Canada advertising and sales promotion.

DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA



409 HURON STREET, TORONTO, CANADA

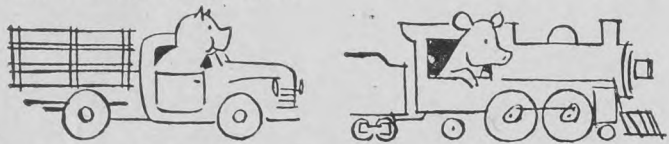
"TO MARKET, TO MARKET"...



Housewives don't buy livestock. They buy meat. Between the farmer and the housewife the livestock marketing system provides a vital connecting link. The values it reflects day by day are a compromise between the consumer who wants to buy meat and the producer who wants to sell livestock.



Offering a ready cash market for any animal at any place, on any day, the packers put meat efficiently and economically on retail meat counters across the country in the many varied forms—fresh, cured and canned—which housewives want. They convert all livestock offered for sale into a steady flow of meat.

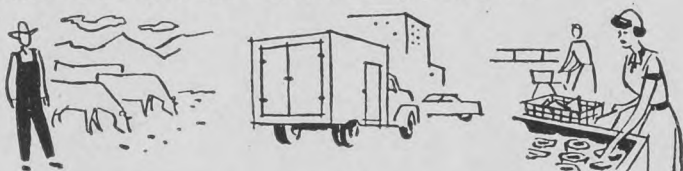


Long hauls or short trips by rail or truck bring livestock to market. They may be consigned to a commission agent for sale on a stockyard or direct to a packing plant. Either way, the different weights, finishes, types and species, from prime meat animals to cast-off breeding stock, must be sorted and assembled into slaughter lots.



This wide variety and changing volume of raw material is processed into the kind and form of meat and by-products most in demand, thereby increasing its value. It may be sold immediately, exported, or stored at times to meet consumer needs when slaughtering are low.

Many services play a part in marketing—assembling, shipping, sorting, grading, inspecting, market reporting, financing, processing, storing, packaging and distributing. Naturally these services cost money. Part of this cost is offset by by-product credits but, in the main, the costs of marketing represent the difference between what producers receive for livestock and what retailers pay for meat.



The livestock marketing system has a good record. In spite of the perishable nature of the product and the variety and complexity of the operations required in processing and distribution, marketing margin studies show that the farmer's share of the meat sales dollar is larger than for any other major food product.



"DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

The way I see it, the livestock marketing system we have today grew out of the needs of the farmer and consumer. As their needs developed, the system changed to suit them and no doubt it will continue to change with the times. I figure the set-up works because it's healthy and flexible. But it does seem to me

that, if a change is made, we'd better be careful not to scrap two very fundamental principles. First, always keep a wide variety of meat products flowing steadily to the consumer. Secondly, retain for the farmer selling livestock the right to select the time, place and method of sale.

Copies of our "Letter on Canadian Livestock Products" are available on request.

MEAT PACKERS COUNCIL OF CANADA
200 BAY ST., TORONTO 1

LIVESTOCK

national calf population increased 4.6 per cent.

Just over 3,000,000 cows produce all the milk, cream, ice cream, butter and other dairy products that more than 15,000,000 Canadians consume, in addition to substantial quantities for export.

Bull Calves Gain Weight Faster

BULLS are more economical feeders than steer or heifer calves, according to performance tests on the feeding of beef calves at the Experimental Station, Scott, Saskatchewan.

In the first test, bull and steer calves were weaned at six months and fed out to 900 pounds finished weight. The bulls gained an average of 2.4 pounds daily, and steers 1.9 pounds, with the result that the bulls reached their weight at 366 days, using 399 pounds of grain per 100 pounds gain. The steers, however, needed 63 more days and 150 pounds more grain to finish at 900 pounds.

During the winter of 1954-55, the Station fed ten bulls and 11 heifers, beginning at five months and finishing at 800 pounds for bulls and 700 pounds for heifers. The bulls gained 2.1 pounds a day, and the heifers 1.6 pounds.

These calves were fed a ration of two parts grain and one part hay. Half had the ration in pelleted form, the remainder fed the grain rolled and the hay whole. Average daily gains for the two rations were 1.9 pounds for both groups. The total feed used per 100 pounds gain was 692 pounds for the rolled grain and hay, 642 pounds for the pellets.

The complete ration combined in the pellets appeared to be economical and efficient, but further tests are planned to confirm these results.

Ergot in Feed Dangerous to Animals

AS ergot is present in normal to above-normal quantities in 1955 crops, the Brandon Experimental Farm recommends that as much ergot as possible should be removed by the fanning mill from grain used as feed.

Ergot is a fungus plant disease affecting rye, barley and wheat, and although traces of it in feeds used for livestock and poultry will not cause injury, its presence reduces palatability and lowers the feed value.

Feed grains containing a tenth of one per cent of ergot are regarded as dangerous, particularly harmful to pregnant animals, and may cause abortion. Ergot in feeds above a tenth of one per cent may produce ergotism, which causes irritation and pain in the extremities of the body, and may develop into a dry gangrene affecting the ears, tail and feet of an animal. It affects mainly the feet of poultry.

As an alternative to using a fanning mill, the grain can be immersed in water and the floating ergot bodies removed. Mixing ergotted with ergot-free grain will also reduce the overall percentage of ergot to below danger level. But ergotted feed for pregnant animals should be avoided.

Home Life Of Black Flies

WHERE do black flies go in the winter? L. C. Curtis, Federal Insect Laboratory, Kamloops, B.C., has been studying these troublesome insects, and estimates that there are 30 kinds of black fly in British Columbia.

Black flies need moving water in late summer, when they lay their eggs on leaves, trailing vegetation, or rocks. The eggs hatch in spring and the newly hatched larvae remain attached to rocks and feed on minute particles from the water. When fully grown, they spin cocoons on twigs or rocks, and inside the cocoons are slowly transformed into fully developed adults, which split open the pupa case and escape to the surface in air bubbles. Once emerged they are literally "out for blood." They feed on blood, and as any farm person knows, they do not care whether it is supplied by livestock or humans.

How to get rid of these vicious little pests is, of course, the problem. In areas where they are really bad, they have been known to kill cattle. At best, they retard, if they do not entirely prevent gains. Killing them is easiest in the larvae stage, and since they lay eggs in running water, from which the larvae appear the following spring, an application of DDT in the spring is the surest remedy.

The larvae can easily be killed by adding DDT to the water at one part in ten million for 15 minutes. The amount should be carefully regulated, but there is room for some error, because fish can stand about four times the dose required to kill black flies.

Cattle to Fit Farm Feed Supply

"BUY the kind of cattle that will use to the best advantage the kind and amount of feed you have," says George Strum, livestock agent, North Dakota College of Agriculture Extension Service.

In choosing the kind of cattle to feed, he lists several points for consideration: "Calves are usually your least risk because they grow and fatten at the same time. They do best on high quality feed, and will not gain rapidly on a ration high in roughage."

"Yearlings are your best bet for feeding a ration high in silage. They can go all the way to choice grade on a corn silage ration properly supplemented. Yearling heifers gain as well as steers and are ready for market earlier, but are usually discounted on the market. Choose cows and low-quality stockers if you have a lot of coarse, rough feed. Heavier cattle for short feeding should be bought and fed only by experienced feeders."

Advanced Registry Swine Club at Camrose

AN Advanced Registry Swine Club was started at Camrose, Alberta, this spring, with five members, to enable farmers with only one or two sows to test them under the A.R. policy. It was designed to supplement the 4-H club program, too, but already it has grown until 20 families are



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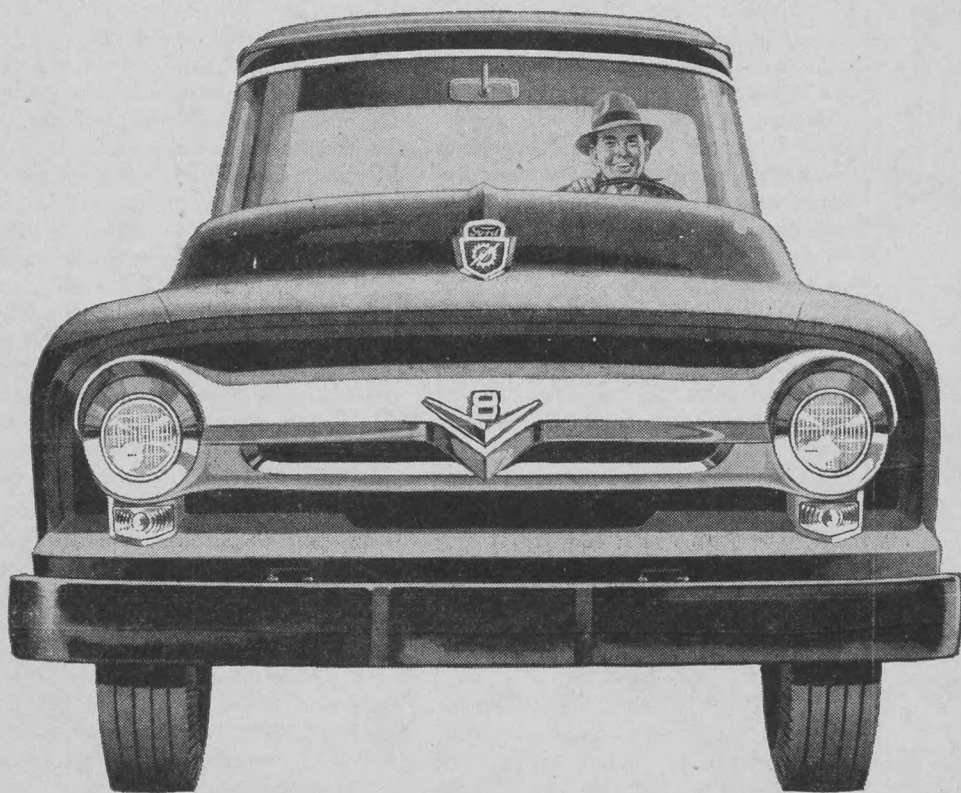
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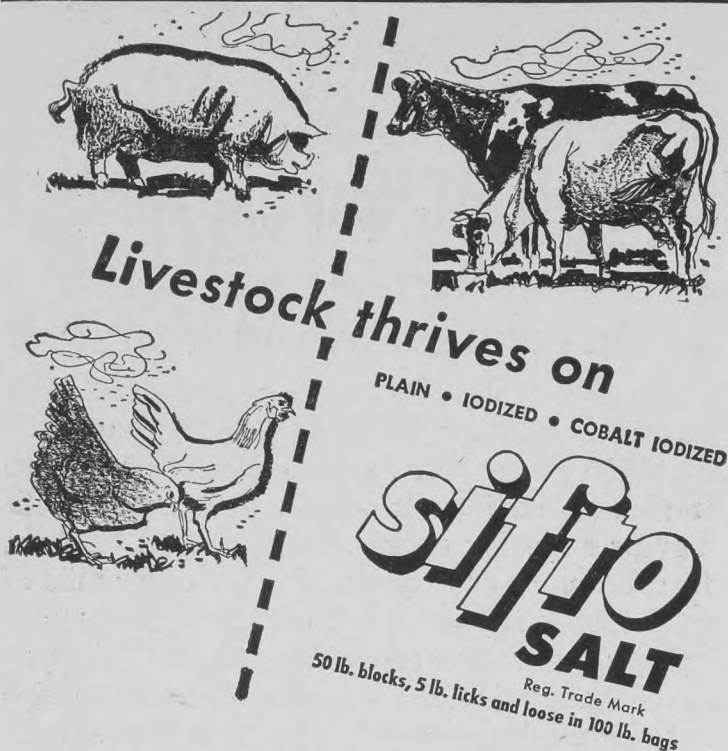
New G.V.W. and G.C.W. ratings for all series from F-250 up boost payload capacities to an all-time high! For '56 there's a new F-100 8-Ft. Express that's ideal for light-bulky farm hauling. New, thicker brake linings on many models give longer brake life; stronger clutches last longer on rugged service; new higher-capacity tubeless tires run cooler, give more mileage, resist punctures and blowouts! Famous Ford automatic transmission now available on all light-duty models, including F-350 with dual rear wheels!



(Certain features mentioned are "Standard" on some models, optional at extra cost on others.)

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members. If present plans materialize, it will be a real force for swine improvement in the Camrose district.

Pete Staal, a local swine breeder, organized the club early this year. Since swine improvement is the goal, one requirement is that every member must test all of his, or her, sows, and dispose of those not scoring sufficiently high. Another is that a veterinarian must inspect the premises from time to time for freedom from disease. The group plans a swine sale, and intends to make sure that only healthy pigs are offered to prospective buyers.

An important step which has already been taken is the purchase of good boars to improve district hogs. Secretary A. E. Larson now has a boar from one of Alberta's highest testing A.R. sows, which he has made available to members. The group itself plans to buy boars for co-operative use. The boars will be of high-testing A.R. stock, will be located at different farms throughout the district, and the keeper will be permitted to charge for their use to cover his own expense. The Club expects to have four such boars in service before the year is out.

This ambitious new club is bringing swine experts from both the federal and provincial governments to discuss the care and breeding of hogs. It is organizing tours so members can visit good district farms to keep abreast of new developments, and also trips to swine shows and field days. The production service of the Canada Department of Agriculture reports that it is already the biggest A.R. club in Canada.—D.R.B.

Aureomycin In Cattle Feed

ALBERT MESENBRING, of southern Minnesota, has 74 head of cattle that have been gaining an average of three pounds each a day. That is half a pound a day more than he expected, after 15 years' experience on his 860-acre farm.

Aureomycin has made the difference, he says. The cattle have been fed a supplement containing aureomycin at the rate of two pounds a day per animal, each ton of supplement containing 70 grams of the antibiotic. He claims that the cattle have smoother and glossier coats now, and that they are better filled out. The aureomycin has also increased the rate of gain, improved feed efficiency, and ended the hoof rot that troubled his livestock all last winter.

Mesenbring feeds hay and silage with the supplement, and figures the improved feed efficiency has paid the increased cost of the feed. He weighed the 74 animals on June 1, when they averaged 930 pounds each. Thirty-five days later the average weight was 1,035 pounds, or a gain of 105 pounds at the rate of three pounds a day. V

Minerals For Livestock

SEVERAL minerals are needed in livestock rations, but only a few have to be provided in the form of supplements. When developing mineral feed regulations under the Feeding Stuffs Act, the Plants Products Division, Canada Department of Agri-

culture, consulted leading authorities on animal and livestock nutrition, and found their opinions uniform on this point.

Supplements need provide only calcium, phosphorus, salt, iodine, iron, copper, manganese and cobalt; and of these all except the first three are required only in very small quantities.

Grains contain significant amounts of phosphorus, but are low in calcium. The reverse is true of forages. So, hogs which consume grain, need mineral supplements high in calcium, whereas cattle, sheep and horses eat forages and need a higher proportion of phosphorus to calcium.

Commercial mineral mixtures must be registered under the Feeding Stuffs Act, and labelled with the registration number, a list of ingredients, and the guaranteed amounts of calcium, phosphorus and salt, and also iodine and iron if present. By this means, feeders are assured of the standards recommended by leading Canadian authorities and can be sure of knowing what they are buying. V

Alberta to Raise Hog Quality

CONCERNED about the quality of commercial hogs coming to market in Alberta, and also about the reports of diseases, especially rhinitis, in some herds, the Alberta Department of Agriculture has introduced a program to improve carcass quality and raise the health standards of pigs in the province.

The first step in this program is a swine improvement policy, under which the Department will contribute \$10 toward the purchase price of each boar costing over \$50, and \$5 for those costing \$50 or less. Also, some transportation charges will be paid on boars bought for applicants.

The Department will purchase a boar for the hog producer, or will allow the applicant to purchase the boar himself and apply for the bonus. The assistance is limited to boars of the Yorkshire or Tamworth breeds, purchased at contributor sales sponsored by any exhibition association, agricultural society or livestock association. Also, the Department insists that such a sale requires veterinary inspection of each contributor's herd for infectious diseases within 30 days prior to the date of sale, and that boars are inspected for quality on the sale premises previous to the sale by a committee, including a person appointed by the Department.

The other phase of its policy is a bonus paid to purebred breeders who apply, after qualifying sows with scores of 75 or better, under the federal advanced registry policy. Assistance bonuses amount to \$50 for each sow scoring 87 or better, \$40 for scores of 81 to 86, and \$30 for scores of 75 to 80.

The Department insists that breeders receiving help must maintain high health standards in their herds. Veterinary inspection is made free of charge, and the assistance bonus will be paid only after a veterinarian has inspected the herd of the applicant and declared it free of clinical evidence of any infectious disease at the time of inspection. V

FIELD



E. Buglass, forage crop specialist, shows a brome and alfalfa mixture at Indian Head Experimental Farm. Hay was taken off, but it can be cut again or pastured in the fall. Brome alone (near camera) is not so successful.

Common Mustard A Costly Weed

COMMON mustard, which robs grain of moisture and soil fertility, reduces yields by as much as ten bushels per acre. It is a common impurity in feed grains, and if found in sufficient quantity, may make the feed unpalatable to livestock.

The Crops Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, has drawn attention to two factors that make this weed difficult to control. One is that each plant produces about 15,000 seeds, so that with any heavy infestation, the ground becomes polluted with the seed. The other factor is the great vitality of the seed, which enables it to lie dormant in the ground for many years, and still produce strong, healthy plants.

Consequently, the eradication of mustard calls for great persistence. If there are only a few plants, hand-pulling is the best method. Good after-harvest cultivation and special care before seeding will bring the seeds to the surface, where they will germinate, and then the young plants can be destroyed. The Crops Branch also recommends chemical control, using three to five ounces of 2,4-D per acre in grain crops, when the plant is in the three- to five-leaf stage. Dinitro compounds are recommended in fields seeded to alfalfa and clover. Mustard cannot be cleared up in a year by any method, and a regular program over a period of several years is the only way to control it in polluted fields.

Experiments In Building Silos

A SEMI-SURFACE silo, with an excavation three feet deep and side walls four feet above ground level, will satisfactorily store hay, either loose or baled, between the top of the silo and the roof.

While silage at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, could be successfully stored between wooden walls in the section above ground, the silage in the excavated portion tended to be

dark and wet due to poor drainage. Tile drains placed in the bottom of the excavation plugged with the liquid and solids drained from the silage.

A horizontal silo was built, using two wooden fences, placed 15 feet apart. Tests showed that posts used to support the walls could be placed six feet apart, when four feet deep in firm soil, but in loose or damp soil, braces were needed to support the posts. It was estimated that a surface silo could be made at about one-fifth of the cost of a tower silo. It also required less equipment for filling, but furnished no protection against the weather during winter use.

Too Much Fallow Land

NORBERT SITTLER, of Leipzig, Saskatchewan, has always been a careful farmer. He works 1 200 acres of wheat land south of Wilkie, on the east side of Tramping Lake, and since his soil is light, he is particular about trash cover. Where once the plow and disker covered most of his fields, he now uses a cultivator to keep more trash on the surface.

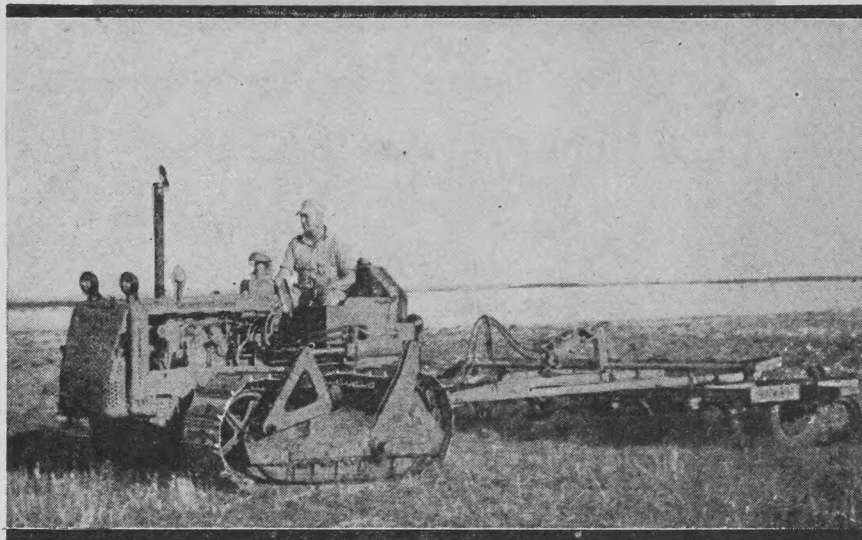
Last summer, he broke up a field of virgin sod with the chisel points of his heavy duty cultivator, and a couple of strokes did an effective job. He left the torn sod to dry, then put a final stop to growth with his disker.

Lately, Norbert, like many prairie grain growers, has been wondering about summerfallow. He thinks it has become a costly habit, and is looking for an alternative. He had some of his soil analyzed last winter at the University of Saskatchewan, and it was found to be low in nitrogen. Then he read in The Country Guide (June, 1955) that Dr. R. A. Hedlin called fallowing an "unnecessary evil" in parts of the prairie provinces, and that when sweet clover was sown with the last grain crop before fallow, the fallow could be postponed until two to four more grain crops had been grown on the same land.

Norbert has no certain evidence that this will work in his own district, but he is finding out, with the encour-

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Wet ground was a headache for Storch Brothers, Hanna, Alberta, until they discovered Cat Diesel power on tracks! Says Mr. Albert Storch: "We have considerable flat land. The going was just too tough for wheel tractors. After talking with other owners, we decided that a Cat track-type Tractor was the answer. With our Cat D4 we have no more traction problems . . . it pulls heavy hitches over the soft spots . . . and under a full load uses only 1½ gals. of 17c per gallon Diesel fuel per hour! Now we wouldn't be without the traction, power and economy of a Cat track-type Tractor!"

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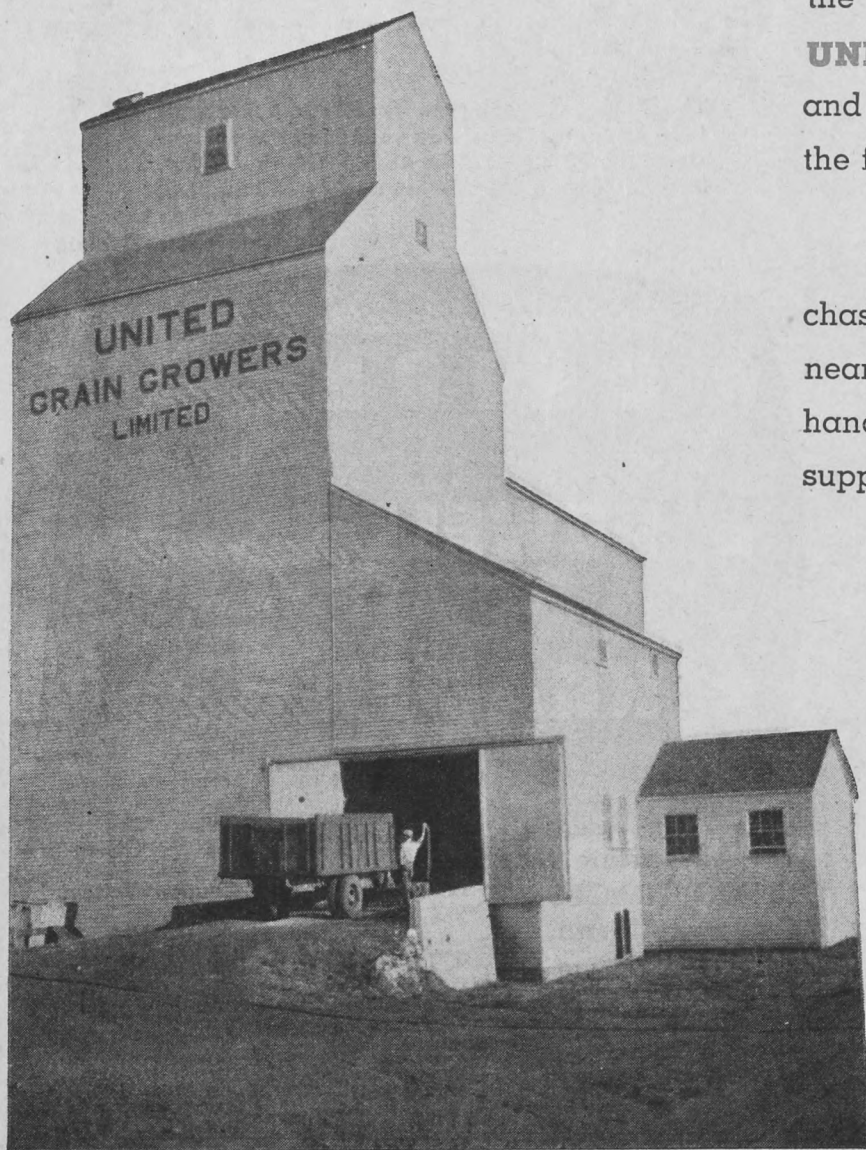
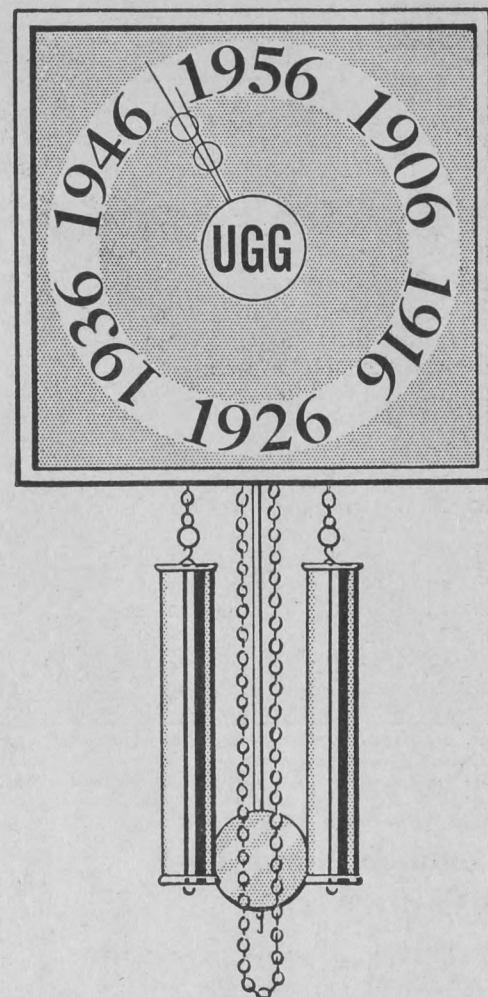
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ADDRESS

The Test of Time

The illustration shown on this page is a 50-year clock.

It "tells the time" in decades — from 1906 to 1956.

At the stroke of the U.G.G. 50th Anniversary gong in 1956, neighborly good wishes will be received and welcomed at U.G.G. elevators throughout the West, in celebration of the founding of Canada's original farmer co-operative and of the historic and successful pioneer effort to bring about a new deal for western grain growers: a pioneer effort that has stood the test of time.



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STANDS THE TEST OF TIME

FIELD

agement of Al Rugg, agricultural representative, who is also looking for an alternative to so much fallow.

Last spring, he scarified sweet clover seed, inoculated it, and seeded 90 acres through the fertilizer attachment on his drill. He will plow down the clover next summer, fallow the land, and then see if he can seed grain on the stubble, after working in green manure. ✓

Corn Borer In Manitoba to Stay

THE European corn borer has caused as much as 25 per cent damage in the cannery area of southern Manitoba, and it is now in the province to stay, according to Dr. A. G. Robertson, professor of entomology, University of Manitoba. This pest has adapted itself to cold winters, and in addition to corn, has turned its attention to sorghums, millet and sunflowers. It was reported from as far west as Saskatoon last summer.

Ontario corn growers have found control of the European corn borer to be costly, requiring four sprays of DDT, and special spraying equipment.

In the United States, the insect is estimated to have prevented the development and harvesting of 192 million bushels of corn last year. The control methods used there include recommended cultural practices, spraying with insecticides, releasing borer parasites, and growing resistant corn, but none of these is effective by itself. ✓

Make Your Fertilizer Work

INEXPENSIVE soil tests can make expensive fertilizers work harder, according to H. H. Hull, soil specialist, University of Wisconsin. He recommends taking samples in the fall, or early spring, and having them tested to find out the exact lime and fertilizer needs for each field.

If the field is level and the soil is uniform in color and productivity, take one composite sample from every five acres. This means taking small cores of soil from five equally spaced spots in each five-acre section. To obtain really representative samples, avoid taking samples from dead, or back furrows, near lime or manure piles, under animal droppings, where corn and grain shocks have stood, near fences or roads, or in rows where fertilizer has been banded. ✓

B.C. Can Add 650,000 Acres

AT least 650,000 acres of grey-wooded soils in central British Columbia could become arable land, according to B. C. Appleby, Experimental Farm, Prince George. The soils are leached, low in organic matter, and generally heavy-textured, but once cleared of bush, they can be conditioned to a better tilth and their fertility increased.

The organic level of these soils is low, and there is a need of grasses and legumes in the cropping sequence. These forages can be grown econ-

omically with other crops, as valuable feed for a livestock enterprise, and they should be maintained as long and as productively as possible. The grey-wooded soils also need commercial fertilizers, including nitrogen and phosphorus, according to experiments at Prince George and Fort Fraser. ✓

Ontario Potato Safeguard

POTATO growers in Ontario have been saved thousands of dollars in recent years by the inspection of their fields for bacterial ring rot, by the Field Crops Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture. It is good news, therefore, that the Department intends to continue this service.

Inspection is free, and growers have only to tell their agricultural representative, or write to the Field Crops Branch, in Toronto, if they want their fields checked for the disease. ✓

How Wet Is Your 2,4-D?

WHY are legumes harmed more by some kinds of 2,4-D than others? Ken Buchholtz and K. P. Dorschner, agronomists, University of Wisconsin, believe that leaf wettability and speed of penetration of the chemical are responsible.

Knowing that 2,4-D, as a sodium salt, is less harmful to legumes than in the amine form, and that in the ester form it is more harmful than either, Buchholtz and Dorschner added a wetting agent, called Tween 20, to the sodium and amine preparations, so that they spread as rapidly and completely as a 2,4-D ester. Then they sprayed an oat field seeded to a legume, and counted the legumes after the oat crop was off.

The sodium with the wetting agent was much more harmful than without it, but not as harmful as the ester. The wetting agent did not materially increase the harm caused by the ester, because the latter apparently possessed wettability and speed of penetration to a more or less maximum degree. ✓

Fertilizer for Improved Nutrition

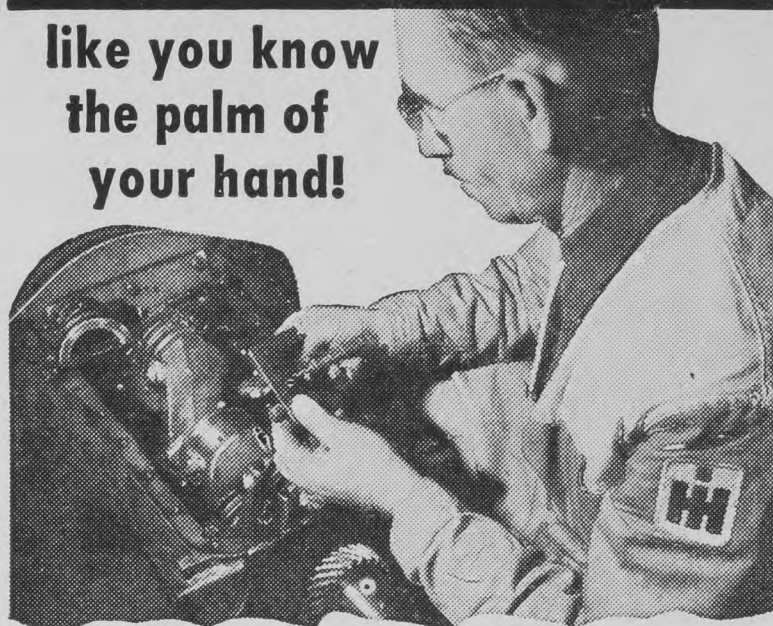
IT has been known for a long time that fertilizers are very important to the grower of field crops, and there is now more than a suspicion that they may be of considerable importance to the livestock raiser also.

The whole question has been examined during recent months by the Departments of Soils and Animal Science at the University of Alberta. Tests designed to indicate changes in the value of fertilized forage have been made, the forage being fed to rabbits. Using rabbits simplified the work, and gains with these animals are expected to parallel gains with farm animals.

The forage used was grown on grey-wooded soils. In previous experiments on the grey-wooded soils at Breton, alfalfa and Alfaswede clover have had their protein content increased from 15 to 25 per cent by fer-

MAN WHO KNOWS YOUR IH ENGINES

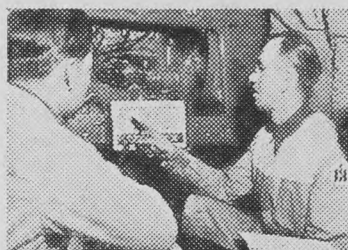
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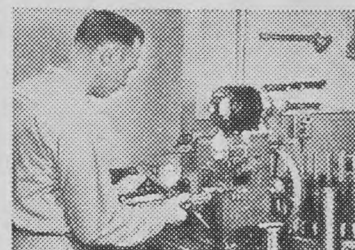
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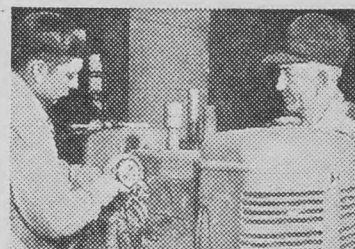
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tilizers carrying sulphur. Increases in protein content have occurred in grains following fertilized legumes on these soils.

Proteins are made up of amino acids, some of which are essential for livestock growth. If a soil is deficient in sulphur some amino acids that contain sulphur, and perhaps others that do not, are likely to be decreased and the nutritional value of the feed decreased accordingly.

From analyses of grain following sulphur-fertilized legumes, it is known that quality as well as quantity of protein can be changed. Such grains not only contain more protein, but have protein with a larger proportion of the essential amino acids. In legumes, however, it has proved impossible to isolate the amino acids in the laboratory. The experiments were therefore begun to help decide whether there was ground for the belief that fertilized crops give better livestock gains.

Legumes from Breton, Athabasca and Dellis were fed to rabbits. There were six fields in all, and crop from fertilized and unfertilized areas was taken from each field and fed as hay. Increased gains of animals receiving the feed from a fertilized crop ranged between 15 and 100 per cent. The average was around 50 per cent greater from the fertilized than from the unfertilized portions. These results were from soils that were definitely sulphur-deficient, but even on the black soils tests with fertilized grasses and legumes are showing promise.

"In terms of the economic returns to the farmer the results of these experiments can be very important," comments Dr. C. F. Bentley, associate professor of soils. "It takes no more work and no more expense to handle highly nutritious feed and the extra gain on the part of the animal, whether kept for meat or milk, represents a clear profit beyond any gain from crop yield increase."

Fertilizer

Helps Weed Killer

APPLYING fertilizer to quackgrass sounds like a quick way to ruin good land, but two agronomists at the University of Wisconsin say it is the first thing to do when wiping out this pest, especially in corn fields.

Kenneth Buchholtz and W. N. Zick have found that some of the new chemical weed killers do their work by killing new shoots, and kill best when there is a dense growth of shoots before the field is plowed or worked. In recent tests at Wisconsin, the best results with weed killers were obtained when the quackgrass was four to eight inches tall. Nitrogen fertilizers, applied in early spring, stimulated growth, and the field could be sprayed with weed killer before spring plowing.

They found that maleic hydrazide and amino triazole at four to eight pounds an acre were harmless to corn. In some tests, Dalapon at the same rates caused injury, possibly because of a cool, wet soil, and a light stand of shoots when the field was sprayed.

All three chemicals controlled the quackgrass satisfactorily, and increased corn yields by 30 to 35

bushels over untreated, uncultivated plots. Dalapon and amino triazole, however, needed further testing to discover the best times and rate of application.

Watch Tartary Buckwheat

TARTARY buckwheat contamination of grain is increasing, and more and more fields are becoming infested, according to A. M. Wilson, Field Crops Commissioner, Alberta Department of Agriculture.

The uneven ripening of tartary buckwheat, the dormancy of the seed and the impossibility of cleaning it out of either wheat or barley make it a very dangerous weed and one to be scrupulously avoided and ruthlessly killed out if it ever does appear.

Seed and feed introduced to the farm from the outside are sources of danger, and bringing in the tartary seed in either way may infest the farm seriously and quickly. In the black and grey soil zones of Alberta and in other moist areas, tartary buckwheat behaves like wild oats, and threatens to be an even more serious weed problem if it is once allowed to establish itself.

Saving Tons of Soil

NO farmer can afford to lose tons of soil, but many do when water from the spring thaw or heavy rainfall drains away through narrow, curving and unprotected waterways. Undermining the surface soil occurs at every sharp curve, and channels are cut deeper.

This loss can be checked, according to the Experimental Station, Lethbridge, Alberta. If a plow, oneway and small grader are used to straighten out the sharp curves, and the grader and oneway to make the bed of the waterway wide and flat, with gently sloping sides.

After repairing the damage, the next step is to prevent it from happening again, by giving the waterway a protective mat of well-rooted perennial plants. The sub-stations at Nobleford and Pincher Creek have found that brome grass gives good protection, and in drier areas, crested wheatgrass. It is important to seed across the waterway, so that the drill runs at right-angles to the flow of water. It is also advisable to seed an annual, such as wheat or oats, to protect the grass against erosion until it is well established.

Grassed waterways not only protect the soil, but are a good source of fodder and grass seed.

Effect of Soil Conditioners

TRYING the effects of synthetic soil conditioners on silage corn grown on a clay loam soil, the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has found that the yield was not increased, but the conditioners were beneficial to the physical properties of the soil.

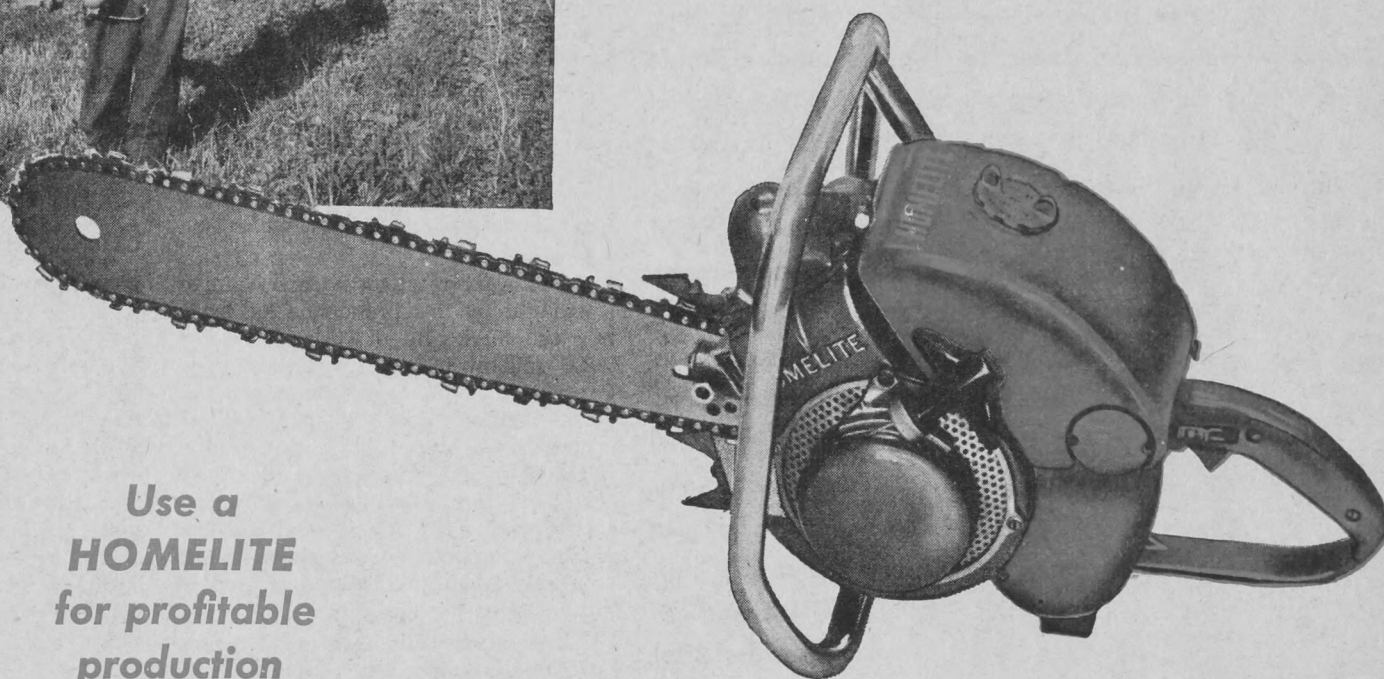
Other experimental stations in Canada have confirmed these results. In two cases out of 20, crop yields were improved significantly.

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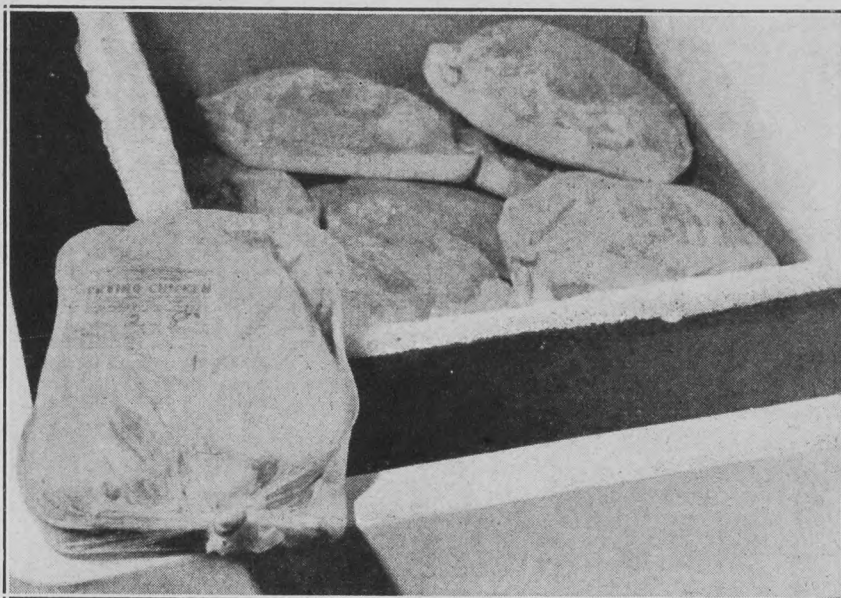
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POULTRY



Packaged, "ready-to-cook" poultry meat such as this is rapidly displacing dressed poultry in the Canadian housewife's market basket these days.

Trends in Poultry Marketing

CANADIAN housewives show no sign of any lessening in their decided preference for "ready-to-cook" poultry. The trend away from dressed birds to the eviscerated product, so evident last year when the number of registered evisceration plants increased from 50 to 74, continues unabated. In the first eight months of this year, 35 million pounds of poultry were processed as compared to 24 million pounds in 1954, and several new eviscerating plants are now under construction.

One of the most spectacular changes wrought by this preference has been in the marketing of turkeys. Of the 6.6 million pounds of turkey meat marketed through registered processing plants to date this year, 2.5 million pounds was prepared in the "ready-to-cook" form—an increase of almost 200 per cent over the amount packaged during the same period in 1954. Turkey imports, too, have been almost entirely in the eviscerated form over the past two years.

To satisfy this domestic market trend, and meet the competition of U.S. imports, it's more important than ever that turkey producers market their birds early. If existing, and new eviscerating plants are to handle this year's crop, it'll be necessary to spread the turkey marketing season over as long a period as possible.

Proper Pullet Care

NEW pullets that have been out on the range during the summer will stand the winter better and lay more eggs if you make sure the changeover from range to laying house conditions isn't made too abruptly. They should have plenty of fresh air to harden them up for winter—leave the windows of the poultryhouse open, and keep them that way until temperatures drop below freezing. The birds will then be better prepared for sub-zero weather. Under no circumstances should pullets be housed with older birds—if you must put them in the same house, build a wire partition to keep the two ages separated.

If the pullets have become used to laying in ground nests, work them into community nests a little at a time. To start with, put the nests on the floor with the tops left open, then when the young birds get used to jumping in and out, raise the nests up to normal level. As far as culling goes, you shouldn't have to cull very heavily if you had good birds to start with last spring, and managed them well during the summer. Just get rid of any unhealthy birds, and others that didn't mature as rapidly as they should. V

Controlling Poultry Mites

CONTROL of poultry mites has become relatively simple since the introduction of malathion. Tests have shown that four per cent malathion dust applied thoroughly to roosts, nests, and floor litter at the rate of one pound to each 20 square feet of floor space has been found effective in ridding birds of the two species of mites found most troublesome. The dust can be easily applied with a hand rotary or puff duster, and one application will last for weeks. It has also been found that feeding the insecticide in the daily ration in excess of any amount the birds might pick up from the litter shows no ill effects at all.

The two most troublesome species of mites are the chicken red mite and the northern fowl mite; the latter is the more harmful of the two because it is a carrier of the dread Newcastle disease. The red mite is a spreader of fowl spirochetosis and encephalitis, which can also be carried to man by mosquitoes.

One indication of mites is a drooping of your egg production. If there is a general droopiness in the flock, with scales beginning to form on the bodies of the droopy birds, and you yourself begin to feel itchy as you work around the poultry house, it's a good indication that your birds have mites. Unless you do something about it, the combs and wattles of your birds will become pale, their wings will get droopy and their feathers ruffled, egg production will continue to fall; finally your birds will start to die off. V

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HORTICULTURE



A memorial to the late Adolph Heyer, Neville, Sask., who planted them, these sturdy rows of spruce were planted on open prairie, normally bare of trees.

Outlook Promising For Manitoba Horticulture

HORTICULTURE in Manitoba has been under a slow process of development for more than 50 years. The earliest settlers, of course, had gardens. The prairie climate has never been particularly encouraging to garden horticulturists, but as the years succeeded each other, new settlers brought new seeds, plants, trees and shrubs, as well as flowers, for trial in the new country.

Because of the relatively severe winters, as well as late frosts occasionally and periodic dry summers, commercial fruit production has been the most difficult to establish. Nevertheless, the persistence of a few pioneers, coupled with the valuable work of experimental stations and fruit breeders, have produced a measurable degree of improvement. Crabapples, strawberries, and raspberries now constitute the main commercial plantings and the farm value of the fruit crop is estimated at \$150,000 or more. The potential is still largely unexplored and awaits not only the enterprise of growers, but the development of processing by canning and quick freezing, and the appearance of hardier and otherwise better adapted varieties now in the process of development.

The total estimated value of horticultural production in Manitoba is from \$10 million to \$12 million, of which vegetables and potatoes account for the major portion. About four million pounds of onion sets were grown in Manitoba in 1946, or about two-thirds of the Canadian total. For this crop Manitoba is favored by suitable soils and climate. Between 1924 and 1955 the number of vegetable canning plants in the province has increased from one to five. More than 4,000 acres are now producing under contract for these plants, in addition to other acreage not under contract, the principal canning crops being sweet corn, peas, snap beans and cucumbers. Tomatoes promise to be a prominent canning crop in the years to come. F. J. Weir, provincial horticulturist says: "The lack of nearby large markets is the only obstacle to extensive expansion.

Crop land suitable for production is practically unlimited and the natural climate is such that crop failures are rare without irrigation. Much of this land could also be put under irrigation."

POTATOES are a major horticultural crop in Manitoba, but a gradual decrease in acreage has occurred during the last 25 years, which has been more than offset by increased yields per acre. In recent years American table potatoes have appeared in increased volume — in 1954-55, a total of 701 carlots. The cause: greatly increased potato acreage in nearby North Dakota and Minnesota, encouraged by high farm price supports.

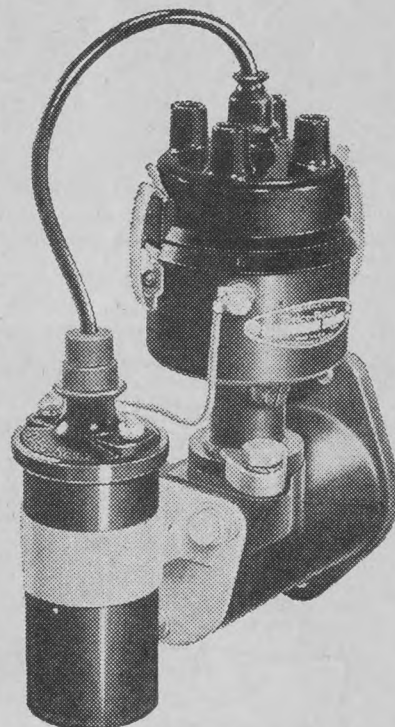
The production of Manitoba certified potato seed has gradually increased over the past 25 years, and is in a healthy state. The culinary qualities of Manitoba potatoes are good, and the industry will be in better condition when the slow, but steady, shift from heavy river prairie soils to lighter sandy loams is completed.

The province now has about 25 commercial nurseries, and an increase in this number can be expected in the future. Their clientele are principally homeowners.

Though few flowers are grown commercially in Manitoba, partly due to the cost of heating, the retail flower business in the province is estimated at more than a million dollars per year.

"Recent tests in a comparative study of the quality of Manitoba and imported vegetables and fruits," says Mr. Weir, "indicate that Manitoba products are equal to, and sometimes surpass, imported products in such characteristics as vitamin content and flavor. The outlook for horticultural expansion is promising and will be hastened by newer markets, more rigid enforcement of grading regulations, additional irrigation facilities, the development of more suitable varieties, and improved cultural methods, as well as a gradual increase in population."

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Roadside Farm Market

Attractiveness, quality and service, here as elsewhere, hold the secret of success

by CECIL P. MACK

THOSE with a small acreage and fortunate enough to reside upon a well travelled road can, for a small outlay, have a profitable hobby or small business. As the suburban residential districts spread farther from the cities, the heavier the rural traffic. The roadside markets handling garden produce, fruit, poultry, eggs, honey, plants and flowers are finding an ever increasing clientele for their products.

It may be that one can produce all the required items on his own land. If not, do not be deterred; one's neighbors will be glad to supply additional produce, to the financial benefit of all. Alas, one cannot, as in the olden days, just put a stand at the side of the road and go into business. Owing to the speed and density of modern traffic, Highway Commissions have certain rules and regulations pertaining to the sale of merchandise along the highways.

I recall one rule that seems to be in general use: "Stand must be back from the highway, with provision for parking off the travelled portion of the road."

The stand must present an attractive appearance, both as to construction and cleanliness. It should be big enough to hold one or two refrigerators, or freezers, with ample counter and shelf space, and should have good coverage for hot and inclement weather.

One stand that appealed to me sat well back from the road, on a circular drive, wide enough to provide parking for several cars at once. A sloping rack at one side held a large display of garden produce, all washed and tastefully arranged in their various contrasting colors. The other side held a large refrigerated counter, in which I saw cartons of large white eggs. Several dressed chickens in assorted sizes filled a shelf above.

Around the walls ran three shelves upon which jars of clear honey, maple syrup, cider and home-made pickles completed a lovely picture of mouth-watering victuals. Flanking the building outside on each side were sloping racks holding baskets of apples and pears, while pumpkins in their autumn hues clustered about the bottom. This particular stand did a very brisk trade; and I found that it was a co-operative effort, several suburbanites contributing their special products.

IF one is in the milder part of the country, the season's start will be May or early June. Bedding plants such as dwarf dahlias and petunias are followed by pansies and nicotine. Potted plants, especially geraniums and tea roses, find favor with the home gardeners. The new vegetables will soon be coming along in great abundance. Asparagus, cabbage, spinach, new beets, green onions and radishes flow from Nature's horn of plenty as the days go by, with a busy fall season as more items become

available—eggs, poultry, basket fruit, honey and cut flowers.

The sale and display of vegetables require constant attention. One must be arranging and re-arranging the display to bring out the attractiveness of their vivid colors. A row of leaf lettuce in pale green, a row of radishes in their shining red wetness, cool, dark, inviting green spinach, contrast with the snowy whiteness of the small early cauliflowers. One's imagination has all the bright colors of the field and garden to work on, in presenting the produce in an inviting manner to the public.

During very hot weather fruit and vegetables present a special problem. Exposed to hot air and drying winds, they quickly assume a lifeless, withered appearance.

Much can be done to overcome this condition. Don't display too much produce on days when business is likely to be quiet. Don't trim cauliflower and other leafy vegetables too close; they can be retrimmed at a later date. Washed potatoes, particularly new ones in six-quart baskets—even bushels—will sell very well and are worth the extra effort. They can be one of the items most in demand. Display a minimum of leafy vegetables, such as leaf lettuce, spinach, swiss chard and endive. Renew often, from fresh supplies kept cool, or in lightly refrigerated surroundings. I have found that liberal sprinkling of chopped ice throughout the leafy vegetables supplies needed moisture and cooling, and helps to make the display very attractive.

Although we shall have many call at our place of business, we are relying on repeat business and word-of-mouth advertising for our success. Our products must be, like Caesar's wife, beyond reproach.

Quality must be the most important factor. The eggs must be candled, graded and clean. Some customers will show a preference for white shelled eggs; others will declare their allegiance to the brown ones. Cartons with name and address will repay the slight added cost, and the lessened chance of breakage will be appreciated, especially in a crowded car.

If one is handling poultry as it comes into season, it must be regarded as a challenge. Here, one can have either a real money-maker, or a difficult sideline. A cabbage is a cabbage, but a roasting chicken and a boiling fowl are two very different and distinct items, and never should the two be confused. See that your poultry is cleanly picked, and well-fleshed, with plump breasts and legs. They must be graded and tagged. Dry-picked birds look better than scalded birds; and avoid offering any birds with tears, large bruises, or crooked breastbones.

Cut-up chicken will take care of any specimens that have any of the above defects. Cut-up pieces will account for a good part of your poultry sales. Display on chopped ice under glass, as there is high loss



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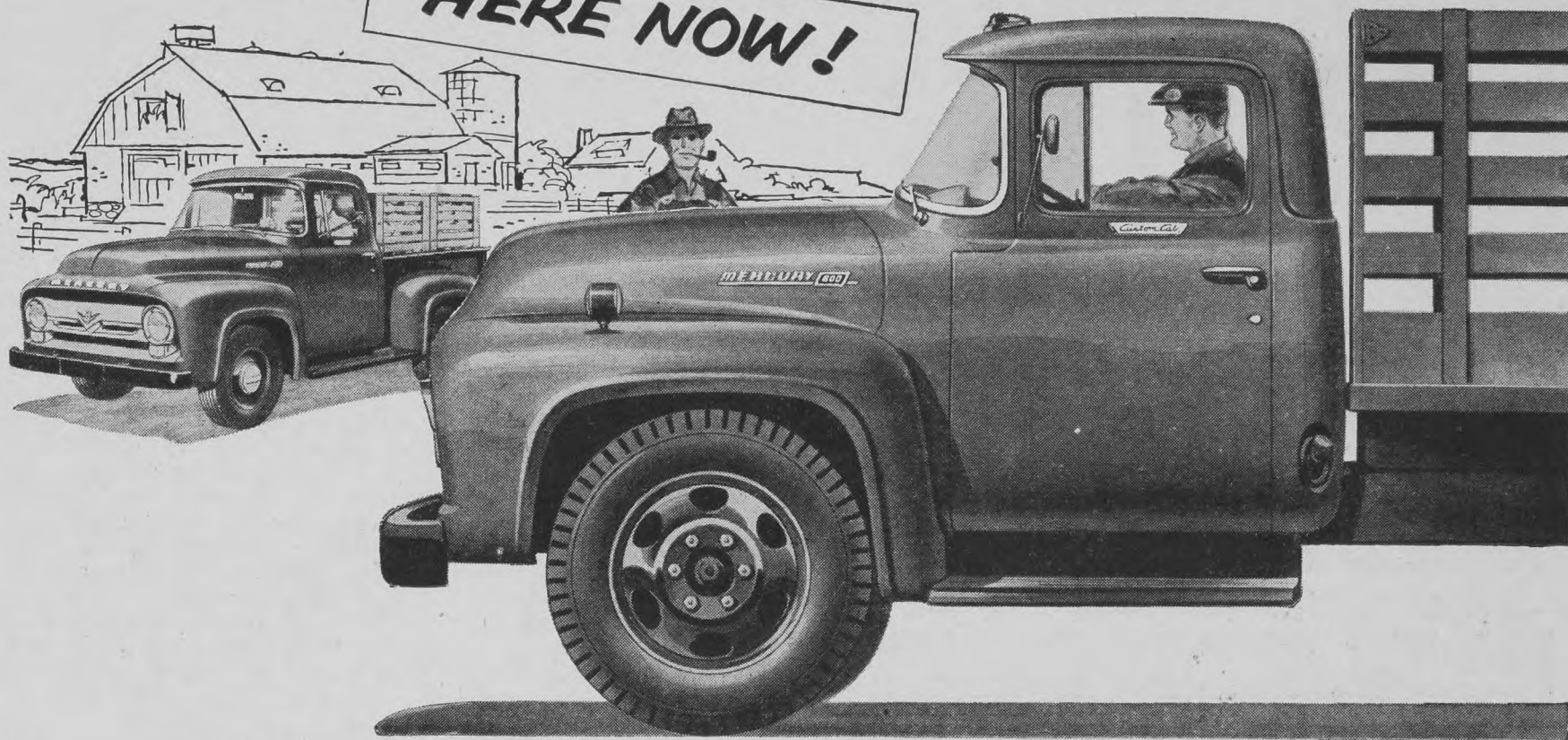
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of weight in this type of sale. All poultry must be kept under refrigeration, except in late fall. There is a growing tendency to offer pre-dressed or eviscerated birds, so refrigeration will be required at all times, if that class of bird is in demand. Don't overlook the possible sale of small turkeys and young ducklings, which bring a good year-round sale in many parts of the country.

Offers to book for week-end orders will make it easier to have the required number of birds on hand, as to weight and type, be it fryer, roaster, or boiling fowl.

Some stands handle tropical fruits and canned goods; they boost volume, but detract from the true farm atmosphere.

THE early apples will make their appearance in July and will be followed by the red-hued varieties, and later by the winter "keepers" such as Spies, Macs, and Delicious. These will sell in bushels and baskets for winter consumption. The early, soft apples will require attention for bruised and crushed condition: they must be kept on the "move" as they don't possess the keeping qualities of the later varieties.

Fruit does not require such close care as the leafy vegetables, but it must be sold as it reaches maturity. Cantaloupes, watermelon and honey dew melons need daily inspection as to ripeness. Pears stand up well, but peaches can be big losers if not sold quickly when at their peak. Grapes and plums should be watched closely,

because their high juice content makes them very vulnerable to bruising and fermentation.

Examine all baskets for spoiled fruit and see that everything is priced according to the quality. Fruit very ripe and ready for preserving should be offered at an attractive price to move it quickly. The secret of fruit and vegetable merchandising is quick turnover, with as little spoilage as possible.

Visible price tags will be an asset. The staff will be quite busy at times, and not having to stop and explain prices will mean faster service. As one becomes established, especially in a summer resort region, one may be called on to supply cottagers. I know several who receive orders, particularly for eggs and poultry, from city dwellers for home delivery throughout the year.

Cut flowers, daffodils, glads, flags and other popular flowers will add much to the appeal of the roadside stand. Ferns, shrubs and potted plants for fall planting are all items that lend their charm to the interested shopper.

In short, the highway market competes with the city stores, but with a difference. It offers a variety of farm products, fresh, inviting, reasonably priced, within reach of the car door, and devoid of parking and traffic problems. Roadside shopping is growing in volume. Often, one or more families are represented in each car. To many people, the opportunity to combine shopping with a drive in the country, has a very strong appeal. V

To Dehydrate Grasses and Alfalfa

New plant in northeastern Saskatchewan will provide a market for forage crops

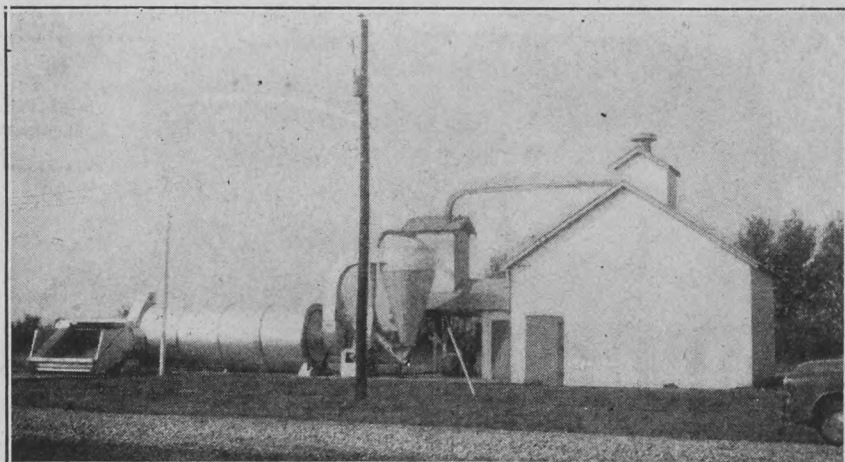
by MRS. J. A. DUNN

WHAT is believed to offer a great boon to dairy farmers, stock growers and others, particularly in the northeastern part of the province, is the recently completed dehydrating plant for the drying of alfalfa and cereal grasses for concentrated feeds, on the Vic Robin farm, seven miles southeast of Codette. The plant, the second in Saskatchewan, has been constructed by Mr. Robin, at an approximate cost of \$40,000.

The plant is operated continuously, with three men on each shift, and has an output of 15 tons per day. The alfalfa must be cut before the blossom stage in any event; and to produce

best results it is imperative that it be cut when young. Three cuttings can be taken per season, but this year, due to delay in finishing the plant, Mr. Robin got a too high a first cut, resulting in a somewhat fibrous product. However, this was overcome in subsequent cuttings.

Mr. Robin operates a 5,800-acre farm in this district, and first conceived the idea of the plant when on a motor trip west in 1951. He visited a similar plant in Brooks, Alberta, and decided that it should be feasible in this district. The undertaking, though in its infancy, is already off to a good start. V



Grass-drying plant built southeast of Codette, Saskatchewan, will process 15 tons of dehydrated alfalfa or grass, to open new markets for the area.



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cattle? Discuss your
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with our
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deposits hidden beneath the earth's surface. Then by referring to a continuous strip of photographs taken from the plane, they can

point out likely areas to be worked by ground prospectors.

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Present-day prospectors have new and valuable partners in the air. Equipped with special instruments, an aeroplane can troll for minerals over vast areas in the course of a few hours. A prospector, travelling by canoe or on foot, would have taken months,—perhaps years—to cover the same territory.

In the past twenty-five years, science has developed new methods for probing the earth for minerals. The magnetometer, a device which measures local variations in the

earth's magnetic field, is useful in many ways. In addition, several other devices in general use are employed by Inco in the search for sulphide ores—the ores which are most likely to contain nickel and copper deposits worth developing.

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Inco's findings have helped main-

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When Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Guide

WORKSHOP

Practical Ideas For Winter Weather

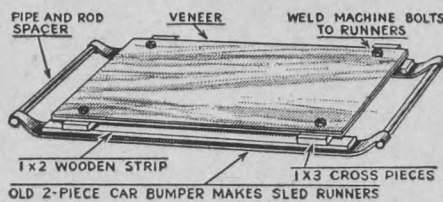
Time and trouble can be saved by preparing in advance for the cold days that lie ahead

Cold Battery Improvement. If your car has been out in the cold for some time, and the battery will not turn the engine over properly, remove the battery and warm it up indoors. If the battery is not dead its ability to turn the motor over will be greatly improved.—O.T., Man. ✓

Cutter Window Defroster. Driving my closed-in cutter in winter, I have found that I need a stove to keep the window free of frost. By fitting two elbows on the stove pipe, I have the pipe running horizontally along the bottom of the window, and the heat rising from it keeps the frost from the window.—A.W., Sask. ✓

Screw Driver Tip. It is often difficult to get a good grip on the handle of plastic handled screw drivers. I have got around this and improved the handle by forcing a cane tip onto the end as shown. It works well. ✓

Light Sleigh. I have found an easy way to make a light sleigh for farm chores and for the children to play with in winter. For runners, I used a

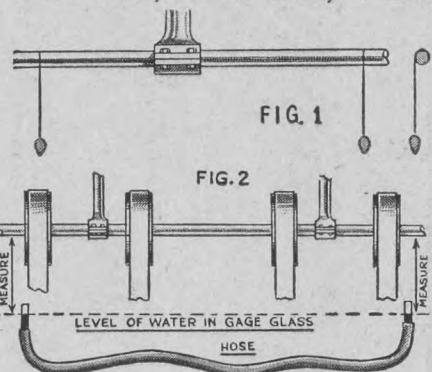


as found on some old models, and welded two half by six-inch bolts on each half. I fixed a length of board, one inch by one and one-half, on each runner to keep them in shape, and joined the two together with three-inch by one crosspieces. Lengths of stub pipe at each end and a board on top completed the job.—E.I., Alta. ✓

Garage Chimney. To build a 15-foot chimney for my garage, I cut the tops and bottoms out of eight 100-pound grease drums, and had the drums spot-welded together in sets of four. Four nails welded on the inside of one section held the other section on top of it. I put a seven-inch stove pipe inside the drums, with a tee-pipe at the base, and an elbow as a hook-up and clean-out. I packed the space between the pipe and the drums with cement, with four inches of pipe projecting at the top so that the cement could be tapered off.—A.A.M., Alta. ✓

Tire Chains. The loose ends of tire chains have an annoying habit of hitting car fenders. To prevent this, I bought four bit snaps and fixed them to the end of each chain. The loose ends of the chains were then snapped on to other links and my problem was solved.—G.L., Sask. ✓

Aligning a Shaft. A shaft can be aligned horizontally with three or more plumb bobs. Hang all three over one side of the shaft. Stretch a thread in front of the three plumb bob strings to see if they are all exactly in line.



To determine if the shaft is exactly level a piece of hose with a glass in either end can be used. Fill the hose and glass tips with water and hold them exactly the same distance from the shaft or pulley. If the water is now exactly the same height in the glass tips the shaft is aligned.—W.F.S. ✓

Slotting Bolts. Machine bolts in corners that are awkward for a wrench can often be reached with a screw driver. When you have the bolt out it can be easily slotted by placing two blades together in your hacksaw and making a cut over the bolt head.—O.T., Man. ✓

Door Stop. If you want to keep a door open on a windy day, you can prevent it from banging with a leaf from a car spring. Set one end of the leaf in concrete placed so that the other end will hold the door fully open. When the door is opened, the spring engages automatically. To close the door, it is necessary only to tread on the spring to disengage it.—E.O.B., Sask. ✓

Trapping Gophers. Gophers ordinarily aren't hard to trap at the mouth of their holes, but they sometimes will work their way around the trap. Try setting the trap upside down over the hole, as shown; I have had good success this way. ✓

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Applicator	\$6 00
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Go on in seconds and stay on until you remove them. Split to fit any shape horn; the halves bolt together with heat-treated cap screws. Small brads imbed in horn to hold weights securely, eliminate rocking. Do not mar horns or cause infection.

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1/2 lb. weights, pair	\$1 60
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Complete unit with instructions to install on car or jeep. The first bowl of the horn will bring cattle to attention, the second should start them moving, and the third will bring them to you on the run. PRICE F.O.B. Calgary

\$18.50

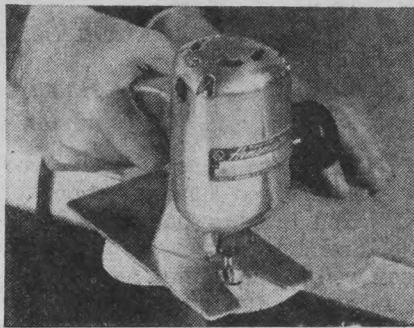
Shipping weight 5 lbs.

Stockmen's Supply Company

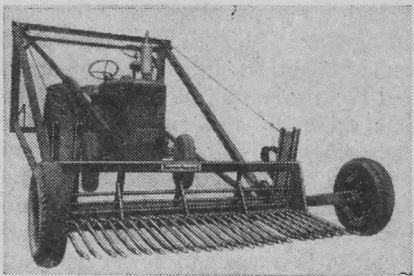
1418 STAMPEDE WAY (2nd St. E.), CALGARY

Dealer Inquiries Invited

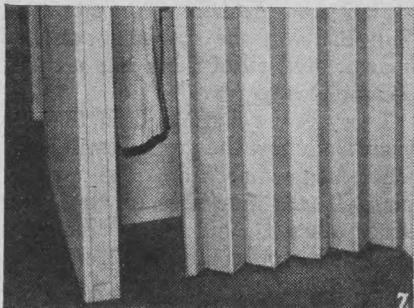
WHAT'S NEW



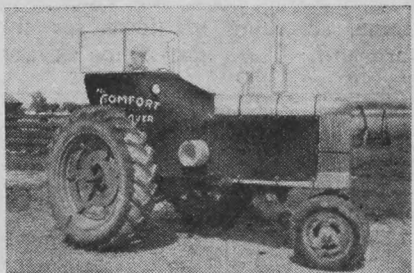
The Routu-Jig is described by its manufacturer as a new type, low-priced, portable electric tool for home-craftsmen and hobbyists, combining the functions of a jig-saw, router, jointer and shaper-table. There is a circular base to make it a router and a rectangular one for jig-saw work. (Porter Cable Machine Company.) (93) ✓



A mechanical rock picker, for preventing damage to implements and reclaiming rocky land, handles rocks of almost any size, according to the manufacturers. Extra teeth are added for small rocks. It sweeps, lifts, hauls and dumps in one operation, and lifts high enough to load trucks and pile rocks. (The Farmhand Co.) (99) ✓



Folding doors of vinyl plastic, which the makers say can be self-installed in seven minutes, have been introduced for use as interior or closet doors, room dividers or movable walls. They run on self-lubricating nylon slides and fold to 16 per cent of extended length. (American Bamboo Corp.) (100) ✓



A green-tinted, vinyl windshield for tractor heaters gives 1,936 square inches of weather protection round the driver's head and shoulders, according to the manufacturers. Operated from the tractor seat, it can be made to slide down over the heater cowl. (Comfort Equipment Company.) (101) ✓

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

AN EXIDE COSTS LESS



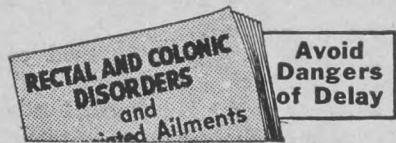
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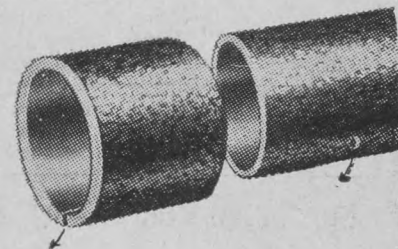
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GOOD
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B. C. Apples are as wholesome and nourishing as they are appetite-appealing. No matter what your age, apples can make a worthwhile contribution to your general well-being . . . help make life seem that much sunnier. Remember, an apple a day is Nature's way.



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Planned Living Is More Interesting

Helen and Leroy Ulrich have drawn to scale a plan of their farmyard of the near future

LEROY and Helen Ulrich, who farm three quarter-sections of land 12 miles southwest of Wilkie, Saskatchewan, have plans that look well to the future.

Like many young couples, they are planting shelterbelts through their fields, for wind protection. They are juggling crops in search of the best rotation for the particular farm. In addition, they have partly remodelled the older-type house on the farm that they have been renting since their marriage four years ago, and which they bought last year.

One evening last winter, Leroy picked up a sizable sheet of paper, sat down at the kitchen table and began to work. Before he went to bed late that night, he had drawn the first draft of a complete plan for the farmyard, using a scale of ten yards to the inch. He set aside nine and one-half acres for the yard, laid out shelterbelts to enclose it, and sketched in lawns and flower gardens. A patio for the house and a laneway were spotted. He located a machine shed, a poultry house and hog house, and pasture runs from them. In fact, just about everything that the young couple had discussed and planned since they moved to the farm, and a little more besides, was put on paper that night.

"Yes, we had made rough plans for our farmyard before," he admitted, "but this was the first time we had incorporated all of them into a single comprehensive plan."

Leroy is the first to admit that ten years from now the grounds will likely differ somewhat from the present plans. That's inevitable, as their own tastes change and time influences their own type of farming. "But now," Leroy enthuses, "we have a definite goal in sight. We may not get all the way there, but we know which direction we are going anyway."

HE drew the plan in an evening, but the thought that went into the plan has kept the young couple busy in spare moments for four years. They had visited the Scott Experimental Station just a few miles from home, searching for ideas for the farmyard. They got help at the

Sutherland Forest Nursery Station just outside of Saskatoon, and since they would be buying shrubs and trees, they discussed it with a commercial nurseryman, at Saskatoon.

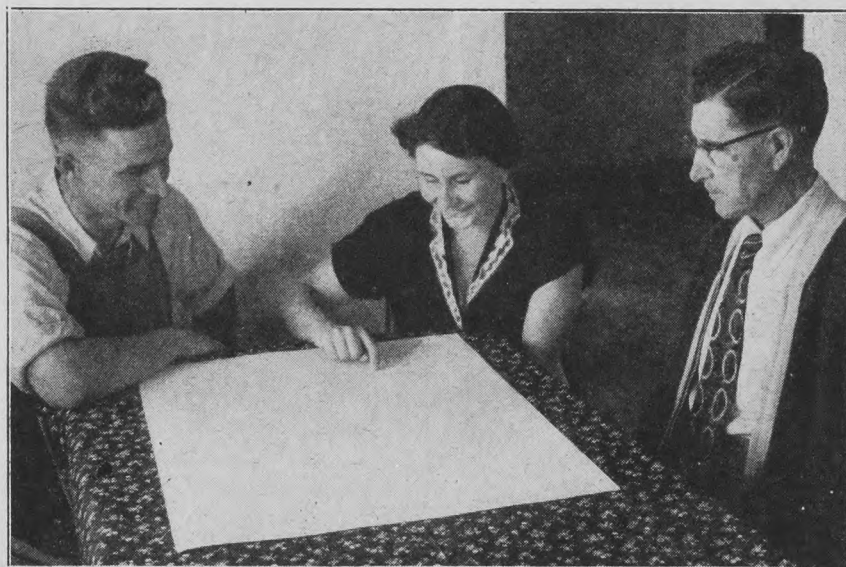
Not long ago, agricultural representative Al Rugg from Wilkie, had provincial horticulturist Stan Sheard in the district. The two of them visited several people who wanted to beautify their grounds, and helped plan the landscaping of homes and farmyards. Helen and Leroy Ulrich made quick use of the suggestions offered by Mr. Sheard.

Even now the farmstead is beginning to take shape. A base for a lawn has been built up at the north side of the house, and a cotoneaster border has been planted around it. Bricks are now on hand to be used for the patio. As part of their ambitious tree-planting program, three side-by-side rows have been set out around the three sides of the farmstead. The first is a row of ash. In the next two, Manitoba maples and elms are planted alternately. Inside these, a single row of Scotch pine and Colorado blue spruce has been planted on the east and south sides. The road, on the west side, is already grown up with a maple grove. To ultimately replace that with a year-round and prettier hedge, Colorado blue spruce have been planted alongside it.

With most of their shelter already started, the Ulrichs are now planning a few more ornamental trees around the house, like mountain ash and highbush cranberry. The flower garden has been laid out, as well as the driveway, which they ultimately hope to lay in concrete.

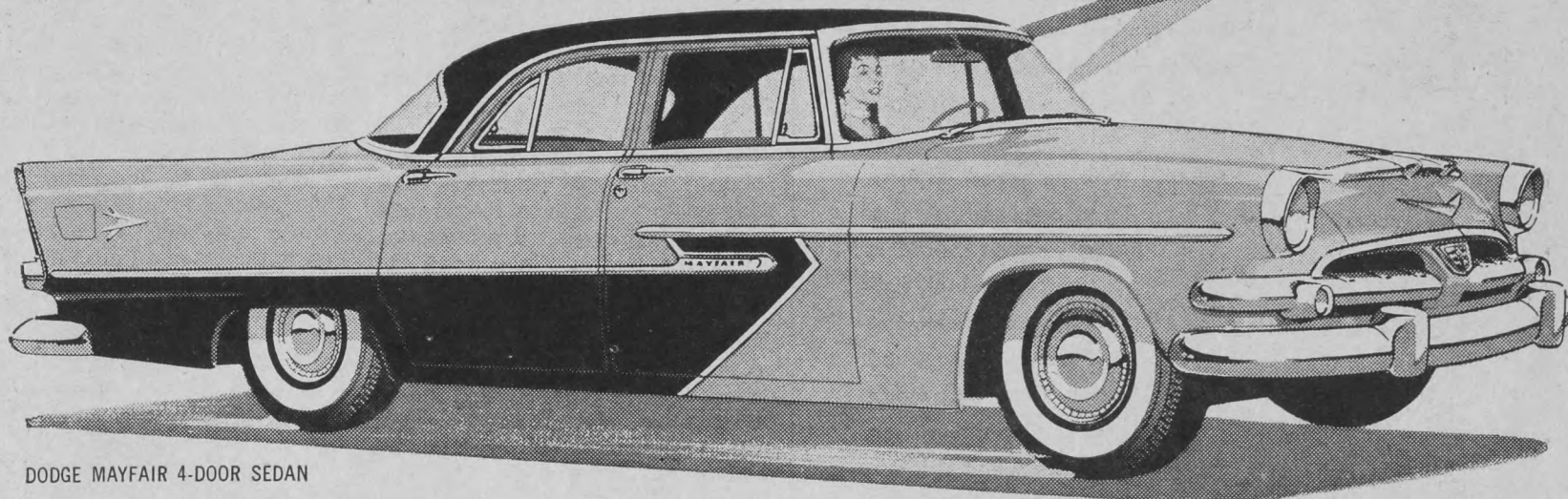
Meanwhile, a machine shed and granaries are planned for the south-east corner of the farmstead. Further up the east side, hog runs and poultry pastures have been laid out, while the cattle pasture will one day border the north side, where a dugout has already been constructed to hold run-off water from the sloping fields.

There can be little wonder that with such a plan already working out for them, Helen and Leroy find farm life much more interesting and pleasant. V



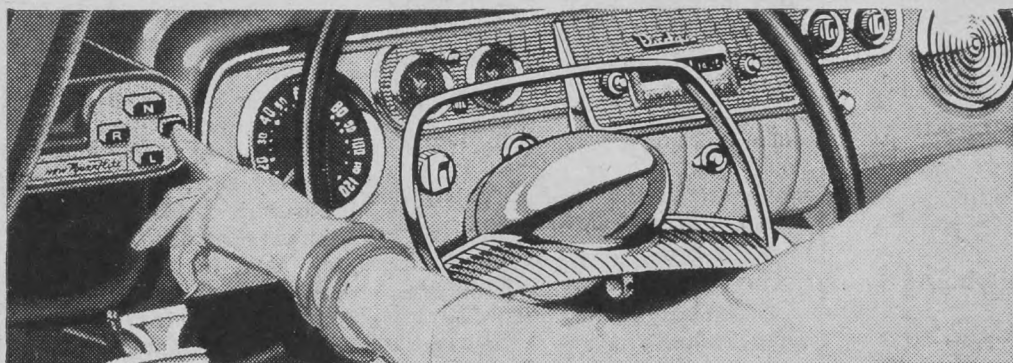
Leroy and Helen Ulrich, with Mr. Ulrich's father (right), discussing the plans for a new farmyard, shelterbelts, lawns and garden for their farm.

See the new GLAMOUR and GO of the Forward Look



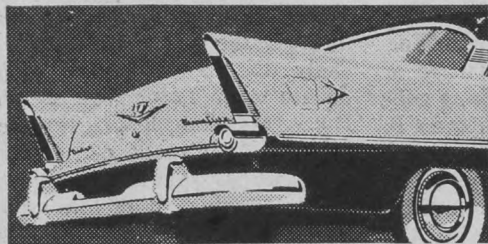
DODGE MAYFAIR 4-DOOR SEDAN

NEW '56 DODGE !



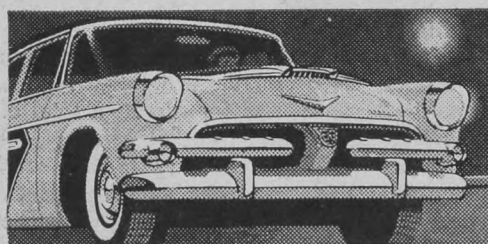
Put your finger on a new idea in driving— push-button automatic gear selecting!

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A view of the '56 Dodge that other motorists will often see is this broad rear deck, accented by tall, tubular taillights. Daring rear fenders soar high at the back . . . dip forward to blend into long, sleek sides. It's the Forward Look for '56!



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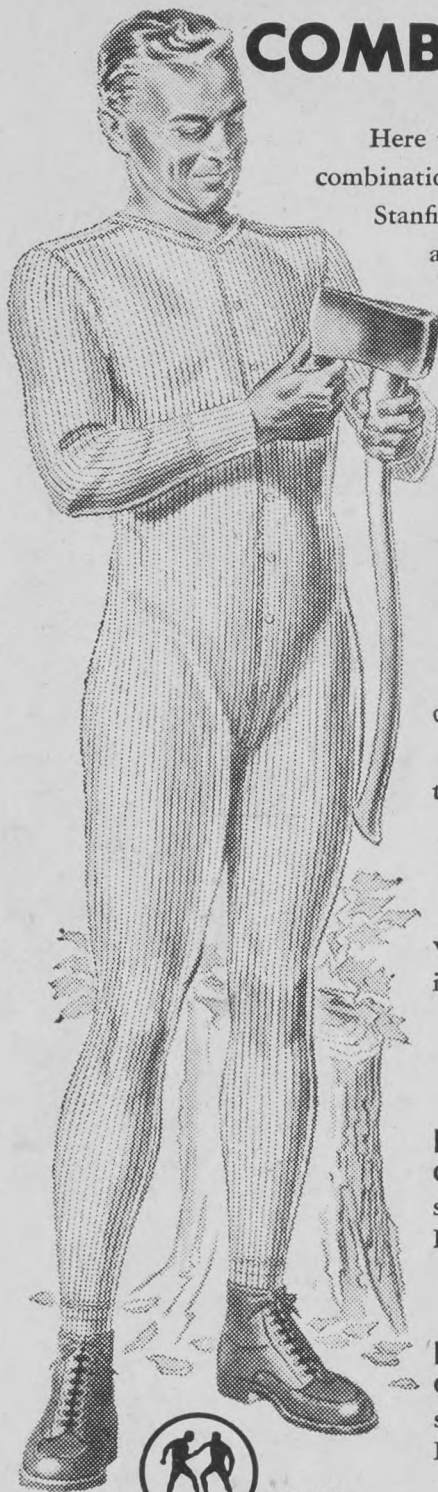
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Combinations available in sizes 34 to 44.

Pair **\$8.95**
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MONTHLY

Western Farmers' Cash Position

The Western farmer has just harvested an excellent crop under almost ideal conditions but he finds himself unable to deliver much more than a token amount and is therefore short of cash to meet current expenses. This matter was one of the major subjects for discussion at the recent Western Grain Marketing Conference called by the Interprovincial Farm Union Council and held at Saskatoon, September 27 and 28. This conference, attended by the Farmers' Unions, Wheat Pools, United Grain Growers Limited and other farm bodies as well as representatives of provincial governments, listened to various proposals designed to put cash in the farmers' hands but finally passed a resolution urging the Federal Government "to make immediate provision for advances to farmers on grain stored on farms and further that these advances be up to one-half the value of the normal delivery expected, and should be repayable on the basis of one-half of the value of each delivery made by the farmers."

Following the conference a strong delegation, representing the conference bodies, together with the Ministers of Agriculture of the three prairie provinces met with Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent and other members of the Federal Cabinet and urged quick action by the Federal Government in getting funds into the hands of Western wheat farmers. At time of writing decision had not been announced but it was considered likely that federal authorities might introduce a plan under which farmers could borrow from the banks which would receive a partial guarantee from the Federal Government. V

The Problems of Agriculture

Recognizing the importance of agriculture to the economy of Canada, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting in Winnipeg devoted one afternoon to the study of the problems of agriculture. This took the form of a panel discussion followed by a question period. Members of the panel were Mr. E. A. Walton, Economic Adviser to the Bank of Montreal; Mr. John A. Stewart of Ailsa Craig, Ontario; Mr. Roy Marler, President of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture; and Mr. J. E. Brownlee, Q.C., President and General Manager of United Grain Growers Limited.

In opening the discussion Mr. Walton, after stressing the importance of agriculture to Canadian business generally, drew attention to the drop in farm income in the last few years with particular reference to net farm income which had dropped from \$2.1 billion in 1951 to \$1.1 billion in 1954 — almost a 50 per cent drop. It is significant that this drop does not indicate a decrease in production so much as difficulty in marketing the production and a decrease in the price received. Mr. Stewart suggested that science and research, which had contributed to increased production by improvement of fertilizers and by control of weeds and rust, should be used more extensively in finding uses for agricultural products in manufac-

turing and processing industries. Mr. Marler stated that farmers had proved their ability to perform the primary function of agriculture—that of production—and that the problem now was finding a remunerative market for our major agricultural products. He pointed out that the farmer was being squeezed between mounting costs of production and declining prices and stated that only the abnormally high yields of the past six years had prevented the farmer's position from being even worse than it is. Mr. Brownlee in dealing with the problems involved in disposing of our wheat in the world market said:

"Producers in agriculture in the United States, in other exporting countries, receive much more State support in the nature of guaranteed price than does the Canadian producer. In the United States, for example, the farmer is guaranteed a price worked out under an elaborate formula designed to make the purchasing power of a bushel of wheat today equal to that of a former basic year. That guarantee ranges from \$2.00 to \$2.25 per bushel. Currently we observe wheat prices at Chicago of approximately \$2.00 per bushel and at Minneapolis \$2.35. France guarantees a price to producers of approximately \$2.64, while in Argentina the price basis for wheat delivered at ports was \$2.72 per bushel. Importing countries have also sought to increase domestic production by price guarantees. So the United Kingdom guarantees its farmers approximately \$2.30 per bushel for inferior types of wheat; West Germany some \$2.70, the Netherlands \$1.86 and Belgium \$2.56. The only guarantee to the Canadian producer is the amount of the initial payment fixed at the beginning of the crop year. This, for a number of years, has been \$1.40 per bushel, basis No. 1 Fort William. The full cost of operating the Canadian Wheat Board as a sales agency is met by the final sale price each year, so that the impact of price competition in the international market falls squarely upon the Western producer. That fact too is important in considering ways and means of working out the disposal of Canada's present wheat stocks and that fact must be kept in mind when reasonable price supports are sought by farm organizations.

"This brings me to the main consideration of our current wheat marketing problem. Much has been said about it in public discussions and through the press and it is highly likely that it will be the subject of debate when Parliament reassembles. It can, therefore, be briefly stated. On July 31 last Canada carried over approximately 481 million bushels of wheat, much of it of low grade, not suited for milling purposes. Canada's harvest this year is estimated anywhere from 475 million to 500 million bushels. If the latter figure proves correct Canada will have, for domestic needs and for export, a total of some 980 million bushels.

"Then, looking to the south, we find that our great neighbor, the United States, has proportionately very large supplies. It has been estimated that the Commodity Credit Corporation now owns stocks amount-

COMMENTARY

ing to one billion bushels and that this year the harvest added some 960 million bushels of wheat. In other words, that country now has wheat supplies to meet its domestic and export requirements for well over two years. There is this important difference between Canada and the United States that whereas Canada has not increased its wheat acreage for many years there was a large increase in the United States due to the so-called parity price support program of that country, with a present realization that the acreage must now come down.

"Out of these high price support programs and the increased acreages which have resulted has developed the practice of subsidizing exports. That probably constitutes the most disturbing factor in relation to our wheat marketing program.

"As stated, the policy of subsidizing wheat exports has arisen in the United States as a result of a price support program, which is now seen to have created a serious difficulty in spite of large benefits which have accrued from it to farmers of that country. The resulting export surpluses were, for a time, easily taken care of by the program of the United States to assist in the rehabilitation of countries which had been devastated by war. Food-stuffs were given away or were supplied on special terms to many needy countries and greatly assisted restoration of their respective economies. Large burdens were willingly assumed by the national treasury in pursuit of a generous international policy which has commanded the world's admiration. Later, however, the disposal program took on a different aspect. That country began to subsidize exports in its own interest. In this way it hoped to reduce the burdensome accumulation of supplies and for that purpose to claim a larger share of international markets in competition with other exporting countries.

"We must admit, of course, that through its Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Benson, the United States has repeatedly given public assurance of its intention to conduct its disposal programs so as to interfere as little as possible with the international price structure and so as not to injure exporting countries, especially Canada, which is its largest market for other goods. Unfortunately, such damage can hardly be avoided. Indeed, it has already occurred to a large extent and is likely to grow.

"But export subsidy programs are not confined to the United States. Let us consider France. That country used to import wheat and it was as an importing country that it entered negotiations for the first International Wheat Agreement some five years ago. During the negotiations, however, France decided to be a wheat exporter and actually signed the Agreement as an exporter with a nominal quota of a few hundred thousand bushels. The switch-over occasioned no great concern for previous imports had not been large and it was considered that its exports would be small. But France has now become a formidable exporter. Encouraged by price guarantees ranging between \$2.50 and \$2.70 per bushel, and good crop conditions, French farmers have expanded pro-

duction. The resulting surplus over domestic needs runs to something like 90 million bushels annually. The Government has been trying to force this quantity into export channels by subsidies in the neighborhood of \$1.35 per bushel and will probably succeed in exporting upwards of 70 million bushels this year. Part of this export cost is borne by farmers themselves, but something like \$75 million annually is borne by the national treasury. As a direct result of French wheat sales to the United Kingdom, to Germany and to other countries, Canadian wheat sales abroad are less than they otherwise would be and the Canadian wheat farmer suffers as a result.

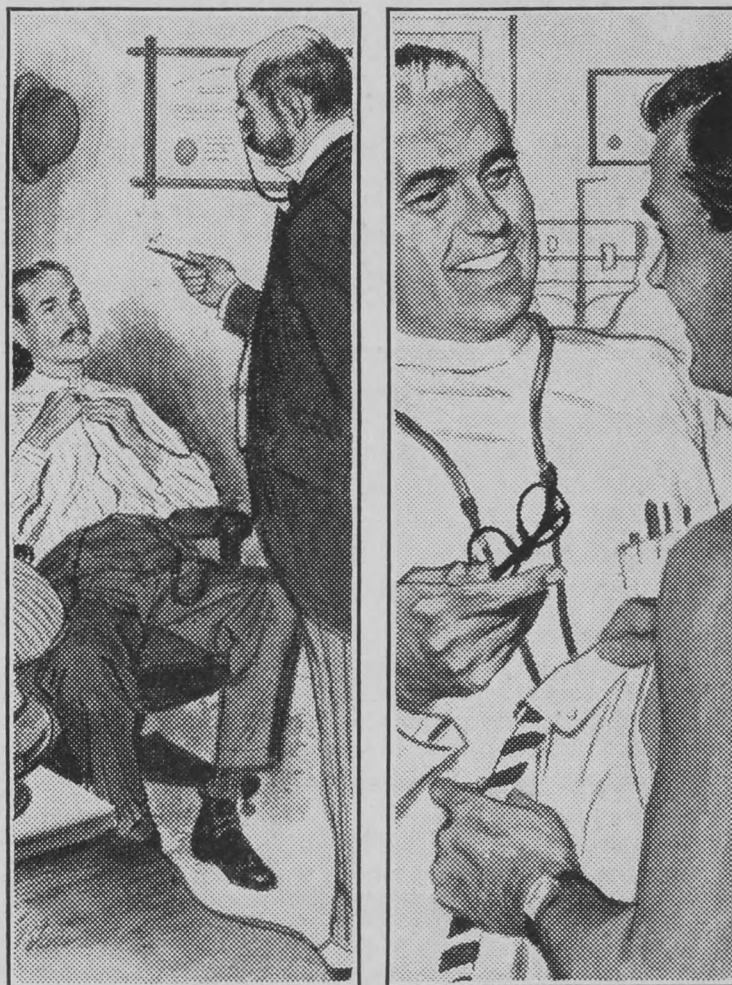
"Quite obviously if many countries resort to such programs of subsidized export it would not take long to produce a very serious situation in export markets. The important question is whether anything practicable can be done to meet the situation. The problem is to influence the practice of sovereign states in international trading on a large scale. Governments are influenced by a high code of conduct in their ordinary relationships with other governments, a code built up through many centuries of diplomatic contact. Commercial relations between individuals and corporations are also governed, not only by law, but also by codes of acceptable conduct in their dealings one with another. But there is neither law nor precedent to govern the conduct of governments when they engage directly in trade, dealing or competing with other governments. The reason is simple; it is only for a comparatively few years that governments have found themselves engaged directly in trading internationally, whether with individuals or with other governments. The time has come for attempting to devise, by common understanding, a code of acceptable international trading practice.

"Canada has sufficient status in international trade to warrant it in taking the lead in an effort to check this practice of subsidized exports, but if it is to be attacked the ground will have to be carefully chosen. Certainly there is nothing wrong in subsidizing agriculture as such. Every advanced country does that in one form or another. The practice is justified to ensure the health of a country's basic industry and to counterbalance advantages given to other industries.

"The attack, if made, must be on a narrower front and be limited to subsidizing dumping. Although the word has an ugly sound, and is sometimes loosely used, dumping has a defined technical meaning in respect to legislation.

"Since dumping, as so defined, has come to be considered a reprehensible practice by practically all trading nations, dumping, when subsidized by the State, must be considered even more reprehensible. It may seem a large undertaking to try to bring about a limitation of subsidized dumping of agricultural products in the international market, but in its own interest Canada should make the attempt and apparently the attempt has already been begun in conversations between Ministers of Canada and those of the United States."

How times have changed for the better!



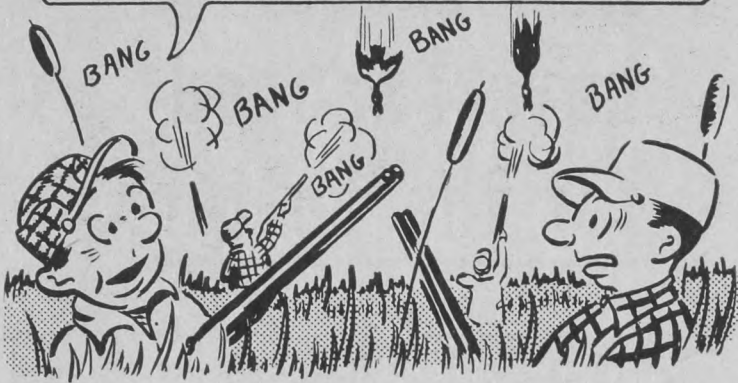
Not so very many years ago, people with a history of certain ailments or diseases were unable to buy the life insurance they needed. Often, this resulted in considerable hardship for their families. But *today* . . . thanks to the results of new knowledge and research in controlling diseases, many such people are now accepted by life insurance companies — and can provide their families with vital financial protection.

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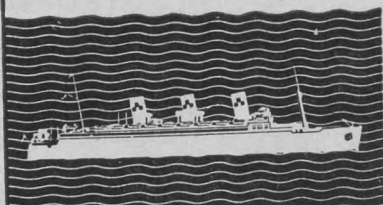
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Canadian Pacific

Master Farm Families, Alberta, 1955

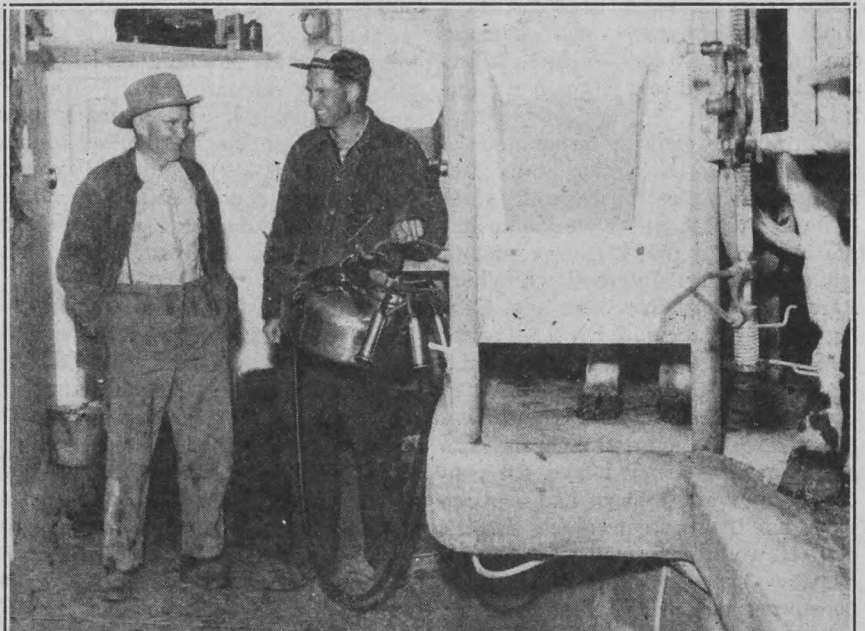
EVERY year, for the past seven years, the Alberta Department of Agriculture has selected Master Farm Families, each receiving an award of \$1,000, an engraved plaque, and a special name plate for the farm entrance. The idea is to show Alberta farmers how a family can succeed in farming, and in family and community life.



This year's choice for southern Alberta is the F. E. M. Robinson family of Alberta Ranch, Pincher Creek. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are shown here by one of the pioneer buildings on their 16,000-acre farm. They have 575 Herefords.



The award in central Alberta went to the B. O. Brown family, turkey producers at Acme. Mr. Brown, seen here with his sons, Murray (left), and Jack (right), is examining some of their 15,000 Broad Breasted Bronze turkey flock.



Chris Schneider's family is the Master Farm Family for northern Alberta this year. Pictured here with his son Walter, Mr. Schneider has 600 acres at Vegreville, where he is producing milk, beef, grain, poultry and hogs.

Famous Sinaluta Boxcar Case Recalled

The elevators were plugged, and farmers needed money. Then W. H. Ismond made a stand and won an important victory

ON his 86th birthday, last month, W. H. Ismond, of Abernethy, Saskatchewan, could look back with satisfaction on the part he had played in the grain growers' cause. He was the central figure in the famous Sinaluta case, which established the right of farmers to order boxcars for direct loading, instead of being restricted to the cars allocated to elevators.

Mr. Ismond arrived in the Abernethy district in 1892, with \$8.00 in his pocket, and started work as a farm laborer. He married in 1898, and in the same year rented three quarter-sections, which he added to later. His first two harvests were poor, but the third, in 1901, was a bumper crop, and he ordered a boxcar from the railway.

The situation, he says, was similar to the present one. Elevators were plugged to the roof, and he had built storage for 5,000 bushels on his farm, but had to move some grain because he needed the money, as so many others did at the time.

On two occasions he delivered grain to the railways at Sinaluta, but each time a car went away without it. By now, it was 1902, the first year of the car order book, and he considered that the railway was treating it as a joke. He consulted H. O. Partridge, justice of the peace at Sinaluta, who told him he could lay a charge against the local railway agent if he wished.

Mr. Ismond then went to see a neighbor, W. R. Motherwell, president of the newly organized Territorial Grain Growers' Association, and later Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Mother-

Rhetoric is the will trying to do the work of the imagination.—Yeats.

well saw a chance to make a test case out of it, and promised the association's support if he would take it to court. Mr. Ismond agreed.

Newspapers across Canada headlined the Sinaluta case, which was taken eventually to the Supreme

Court. Mr. Ismond and the Territorial Grain Growers' Association won, and after that the farmers got their cars. This victory also strengthened the

Association, which had proved that if farmers acted together, they could face powerful commercial organizations without fear. They had made their stand at a key point, for the C.P.R. described Sinaluta and Indian Head, at that time, as the two biggest grain shipping points in the West.

Mr. Ismond was a pioneer in another respect. He was told by E. A. Partridge that he was the first to take shares in the Grain Growers' Grain Company, north of the Qu'Appelle

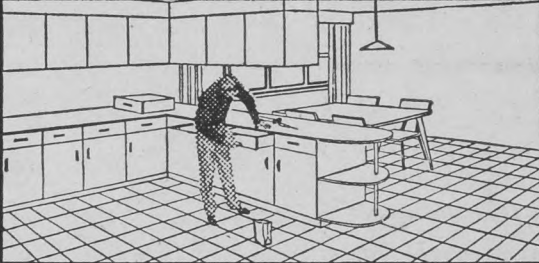
River and west of the Manitoba boundary.

The years have treated him well. Although he has retired, Mr. Ismond is still alert and active. He is concerned about those who cannot sell their grain now, and are having to store it on the farm, as he did many years ago. "But every generation has its problems and there is always a solution to them," he says, remembering his own struggles, and how he and his neighbors came through them. ✓

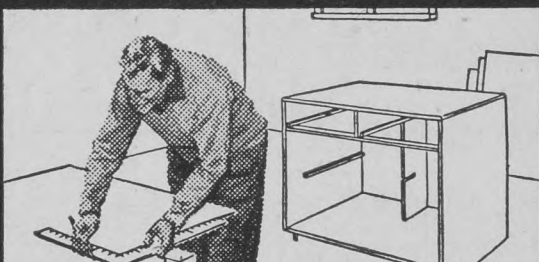
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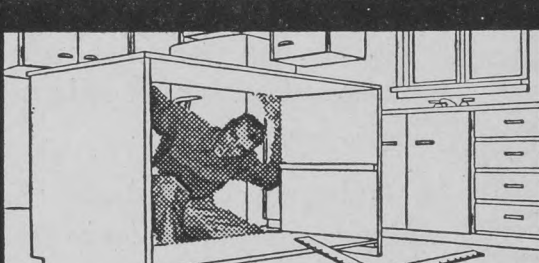
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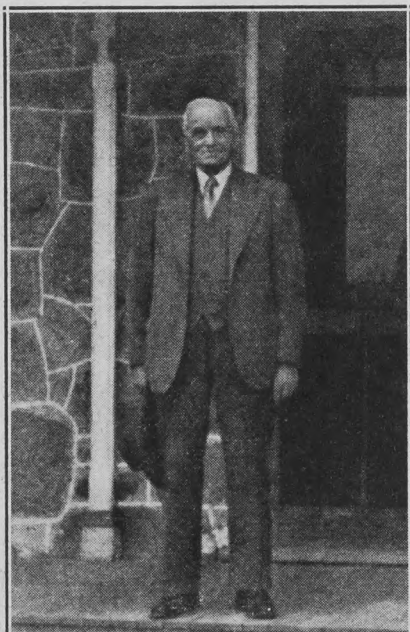
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W. H. Ismond photographed at his home in Abernethy last month.

Pain Killer

Continued from page 10

ordered her to "lie four months." It was hard on Mother, knowing there was so much work to do.

I took her in a plate of dinner and heard Bub ask Father what something was. "That," I heard my father say, "is fried bacon. Eat it." Ed said enthusiastically it was like eating on the Kansas plains. Ed believed that flattery could relieve a person of many distasteful tasks in life, such as washing dishes when Mother was sick.

I helped Mother get propped up comfortably. I told her about a pair of mallards that were swimming in the upper slough and how warm it was outside. "The blackbirds are back, too. A flock of them follows the plow."

"Well," she said, "it's the 20th of April." Mother always knew when to expect the birds back. She never let Ed and Bud shoot crows, she was so glad to see them again after the long winter.

"The grass is greening — all the sloughs are real green. The poplars are getting catkins. There's bush fires up north; you can smell them on the wind."

"Alberta's lovely in spring," said my mother wistfully. "A body likes to be up enjoying it. Eat your dinner, Stanley, before it gets cold."

Father was worrying about the seeder again. "If we could get six new spouts for it, it would do another year, I think. But there's small sense talking about that."

Money, always scarce in the Alberta bushland, was non-existent that year. The homesteaders lived a life as tough as that of any pioneers; and sometimes it seemed incredible to me that once you got to the railhead, now only 13 miles from the valley, you could board the twice-weekly train and be in Edmonton in five hours.

Dinner finished, Dad pushed back his chair. "Bub . . . and Ed . . . do the dishes. Nellie, stay in bed. Stanley, get out and rub that beast's shoulder with pain-killer."

The package we'd got the fall before had never been opened. It sat on the header above the barn door, along with bits of leather, rivets and harness buckles. On the outside of the box it said: "LOKUM'S PAIN-KILLER LINIMENT—The Standard Remedy for Over a Century. For Toothache, Neuralgia, Sore Back, Sprains, Rheumatism. Especially Good for Livestock. Not To Be Taken Internally."

Inside the box was a voluminous wrapper printed in eight languages. I started to read the English version, and suddenly my heart skipped a beat. Lokum's had a contest on. First prize was \$100—cash. Second was \$75.

Third \$40 . . . All you had to do to win was write a jingle about their pain-killer and enclose one wrapper with each entry.

They had printed a sample of the kind of jingle that might win.

*"When from pain you need a rest,
Lokum's Liniment is best."*

Prize-winning entries would be judged on their aptitude, originality and sincerity of thought. Jingles could not be more than ten lines. Closing date was May 1st.

"Father!" I ran out of the barn, waving the folder. "Father—"

Pa was just crawling under the seeder. He crawled out again.

"What the inferno have you done now?" he said. "Killed the ox?"

I explained about the contest and the necessity of getting my entry in immediately. "Just like you said, Pa—unforeseen opportunities always arise. We'll all think up jingles—"

"For the love of heaven," he said, "will you use your head? We're homesteaders—not jinglers."

"But, Father, I've got real talent for this sort of thing. It springs naturally from my appreciation of music. Remember in school—"

"Stanley," said my father, "would it be asking too much of you to acquire an appreciation of what you're doing? Now, get that ox rubbed. Put the sweat pad on him. Take half-furrows the rest of the day." He pushed

his hands through the air. "I'd plow myself and leave you here, but you'd put the seeder up so the inventor himself couldn't make it run again."

THE oxen plodded down the field. Last year's stubble crisped in the afternoon sun. I thought about the prizes, the pain-killer and Pa. Mostly I thought about what that \$100 would do, to Pa's opinion of my practicality. Lulled half-asleep by the squeak of the coulter, I soon had a magnificent jingle thought out.

"Lokum's killed our ox's pain:

And still he lives to plow again."

By quitting time, though, it didn't seem quite so good. All through supper, all through chores, I thought about Lokum's. I even managed to carry on an intelligent conversation with Father, though once he said suspiciously that I was looking like a mesmerized rabbit. That night, after everyone else was asleep, I got up quietly and lit the coal-oil lamp. By the time the April sky was lighting to apple-green in the east, my best jingle was finished.

*"When Gramp was bothered with pain,
He'd say 'twas a sure sign of rain.*

Now Lokum's each day

Keeps his miseries away,

And we've lost a fine weather-vane."

Easter holidays were over, and Monday morning Ed and Bub had to start back to school again. On the strength of my promise to buy fish-

You can't rush the calendar

Nature takes her time in yielding the farmer a return on his investment of money and effort. Meanwhile he may need cash for feed or fertilizer or implements; or to re-roof his barn; or buy livestock.

Bank loans let him go ahead with his plans or improvements without waiting for harvest time. Across his local bank manager's desk he talks over the purpose, amount and repayment of the loan. It's a simple, straightforward business transaction involving the use of bank credit to promote enterprise.

In big city or rural area, the local branch of your chartered bank is a convenient banking service-centre. Staffed by friendly people, it is ready to help you with your saving, borrowing and other banking business . . . all under one roof.



*Only a chartered bank offers a full
range of banking services, including:*

MONEY ORDERS AND BANK DRAFTS

To send money anywhere in Canada or throughout the world.

LETTERS OF CREDIT

For travellers on extended trips, or to finance business transactions at a distance.

MORTGAGE LOANS

For building your home under the terms of the National Housing Act.

FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS

For many worthwhile purposes, adding to progress, efficiency and the comfort of farm life.

THE CHARTERED BANKS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

hooks for Ed and a harmonica for Bub, they offered to mail the jingle for me. That night they trudged home, swinging their old lard lunchpails and looking extremely pessimistic. All the school kids, it appeared, were mailing jingles for their parents.

"Some of them," said my brothers, eyeing me as if I had betrayed them, "mailed ten."

By May 10, ducks were stretching lazily on every slough and the willows, green with leaf, leaned toward the still waters. The harrowing was done—miraculously without mishap—and Father opined it was time to be getting the wheat in on last year's breaking.

The great hope that had continued to beat in my heart till May 1 was gone. Twice weekly the mail was hauled to Wild Brier Valley, yet Bub and Ed had brought me no news. I was sure now I had sent the wrong jingle. I hadn't seen Rose for three weeks. Pa was taking soda for his stomach, the direct result, he said, of worrying about the mishaps I *might* get into. Ed and Bub were distinctly cool: from the kids living near the river, they had word that the first suckers were coming up to spawn. The sucker run always preceded that of the pike. Suckers could be snared on the rapids, but you needed hooks to catch the powerful jackfish, schools of which stayed in the deep pools all year long.

Father had hooked up the seeder spouts with haywire, and we gingerly hauled it to the breaking. We filled it with wheat from the wagon box at one end of the field.

"Now, Stanley," said my father, "watch these brutes on the breaking. If the chains catch on a root or anything, this infernal thing'll fall apart. If I didn't have to milk, treat the rest of the grain, cook, do the heavy chores, look after your mother—" Father paused. "If you ever used your head, use it now."

The first day I almost went dizzy. There were 16 spouts, 16 disks and 16 chains that dragged over the seeded track. It was hard to keep watching them all at once.

The middle of the third day, the feeder bar stopped turning. I stopped the oxen. When he saw me at the granary door, Pa stopped shovelling the grain he was treating.

"Stanley, don't tell me. Let me guess."

"Father, I wish you wouldn't always be jumping to conclusions about me. The bar broke."

Pa staggered outside. He looked beat.

"Something's got to give here soon, and I'm afraid it's going to be my mind. Listen! If we're ever going to get this crop in, we'll both have to be free to get out on the land. Someone has to keep that seeder together. I dunno why I didn't think of it before, but what about Rose Wrycjowski?"

"Good heavens, Pa!" I protested, "I don't think she knows anything about seeders."

Father said patiently, "Couldn't she come down and cook for us for awhile—look after Mother—slop the pigs—put in the garden—take care of the brooding hens—do a few little jobs like that?"

"Well, Pa, she's getting fed up with the farm as it is. She—"

"Don't blame the poor girl," said my father. "Stanley, that future father-in-law of yours is gonna be a hard man to live with. He thinks he suffered more than me last year just because he had more crop to lose. Tell him you'll lend a hand with the harvesting in exchange."

THE next day Pa set out to visit the Olsen's eight miles west. Sam Olsen had once owned an old seeder like ours. Pa figured he might get the feeder bar from it. I walked the ten miles up to Wrycjowski's.

In the hollow below their house, Rose raced to meet me, her dark hair flying. She was just getting her arms linked around my neck when I caught sight of Mr. Wrycjowski surveying us from the brow of the hill. His red moustache struck straight out.

"Hmn," said Mr. Wrycjowski. "Flutterin'," eh?"

"Papa! Rose turned in fury. "Quit following me! Can't I even say hello to Stanley without you watching?"

"If I said hello to people like that," said Mr. Wrycjowski, "they would think I was a very funny fellow. Now I know why last Sunday you washed all the clean dishes and put away the dirty ones." Mr. Wrycjowski looked at me. "Stanley, you gonna marry Rosie?"

"Well—"

"Papa!" shrieked Rose. "You're driving me beserk!"

"Come into the house," invited Mr. Wrycjowski affably. "I want Mamma to hear this."

Mrs. Wrycjowski was a thin woman, with a lined face and a kind heart. Mr. Wrycjowski mentioned to her that the trouble with their Rosie was that she was thinking about flutterin' instead of working. "When we were young, we got married first and then we fluttered, hey, Mamma?"

Mrs. Wrycjowski smiled.

Mr. Wrycjowski eyed me speculatively, as I'd seen Pa eye some ox he'd got stuck with in one or another of the complex deals in which the homesteaders were always involved.

"I got 480 acres of land. Nice land. When I die, whoever marries Rosie gets it—all of it. My horses, too—"

"Papa!" wailed Rose.

"I don't feel so good these days, either," said Mr. Wrycjowski sadly. "Think of it, Stan'ey. Everything I worked and slaved for—all yours."

"Stanley," wailed Rose, "he just wants you to come and live here, so you can help him with all his work. Don't you do it. Papa, why do you always say mean things to Stanley?"

"If he's gonna be your husband," said Mr. Wrycjowski, "can't I talk to him whatever way I like? Do I a'ways gotta be polite, like he was just a neighbor?"

"Mr. Wrycjowski," I finally managed to explain, "I only want to borrow Rose for a couple of weeks, till we get the seeding done. With Mother laid up, Pa's in a state. Thanks Mr. Wrycjowski, for the offer, but if I have to worry about your troubles, too, I'll go stark beserk."

"All right!" said Mr. Wrycjowski sadly. "But I don't think you'll ever have a head for trading."

I stayed to early supper, lending Mr. Wrycjowski a hand with his chores. Then Rose and I walked down the range-line road to the valley. We

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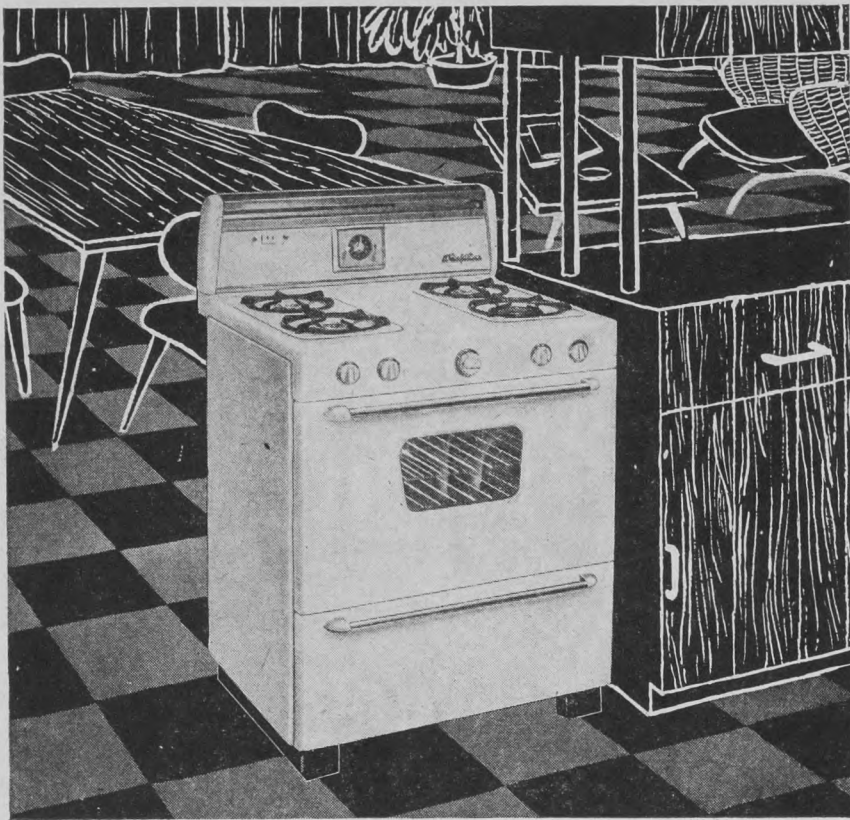
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talked about us. Rose said she was irrevocably against the idea of people having only one child, because the child was worked to death. "So, Stanley darling, just as soon as we're married—"

"But, Rose," I said haggardly, "where will we live?"

Rose was definite about that. It would be far away from our respective parents.

From the sides of the white dirt road, the dusk slipped wings around us. Last flocks of songbirds passed overhead against the mid-May moon, and their wingbeats were a tiny thunder in the night. In her light dress, Rose was like a dream moving beside me, and the spell of the spring slipped over us again.

We dreamed. When we got married, we wouldn't waste our lives tending oxen and getting up twice nightly to keep the fire going in the chicken house (so the hens wouldn't freeze their combs). Our summers would be spent in romancing. In the winter, we'd snuggle around the fire and talk. We decided to keep these sacred plans to ourselves.

It was ten o'clock when we got to our place. Father was soaking his feet in hot water. Mother was still awake. Rose went in and kissed her.

"I'm sorry you had to come to work for us, dear," my mother said softly. "It gets tiresome doing dishes, cooking—"

"Mrs. Harrison, I just love doing dishes and cooking," protested Rose. "Don't I, Stanley?"

"You're sweet, and so romantic." My mother dabbed at her eyes. "Like I was before I married Sam."

FATHER had managed to get the bar for the seeder, and we started afresh on Monday. On Wednesday, as we watered the weary oxen, Ed and Bub came racing madly from school. They had a letter for me—from the Lokum Company.

I opened it with difficulty, conscious of Father's scrutiny, wondering what I'd ever do with \$100 at this time of year.

"Pa, remember what I said about my musical abilities?"

"There's a catch somewhere," said Father, putting a match in his mouth and trying to strike a light with his pipe. "Hah! Catch them giving away money. Hah!"

The letter from the Lokum people said:

"Dear Mr. Harrison:

"An enthusiastic volume of entries in our Jingle Contest was received from your part of the country. Oddly, however, the judges found that two third prize entries were also from the same area. The jingles submitted by yourself and Mr. J. Cramer were held to be equally appropriate, original and sincere tributes to the value of Lokum's Pain-Killer Liniment, famous since the war of 1812.

"Therefore, rather than divide the prize money (\$40) the judges decided to ask each of you to submit a tie-breaking jingle, to be postmarked not later than June 1, after which the final decision shall be made . . ."

"Well, that illiterate little side-winder!" roared my father. "What right had he to enter the contest? He doesn't need the money. The man

never bought a bottle of liniment in his life. Likely, he stole somebody else's box-top."

Father slapped me on the back. "Surely for an intelligent boy like you, it would be simple to do another? Eh, son?"

"Pa, they're not that simple."

The family looked on me suddenly as if I was about to inherit an estate, providing I could only prove I was entitled to it. Mother said the Lokum people must sell a powerful lot of liniment to give away money like that. Rose begged me to think of what it would mean to our children in years to come to know their father had got his start in life by something other than homesteading.

After supper, Father started filling his pipe. There was no love lost between Jay Cramer and him, and the thought of \$40 almost within our reach was, plainly, putting Father in a state.

"Be calm, everybody!" said Father, spilling tobacco crumbs all over the table. "For a change, I'm going to ask everyone around here to use their heads. A windfall like that could be the making of us here. If that Cramer gets it, I'll never rest in my grave." Then he looked at me. "Stanley, will you say a word to us on how to go about making jingles?"

"Well," I said vaguely, "first you have to be full of little songs. Then—well, the jingles just come."

"You hear that?" said my father. "Now we get full of little songs."

Father sat up till dawn, without a single rhyme coming to his mind. He was haggard all the next day on the seeder.

Rose was the first to produce what even looked like a tie-breaking effort. Rose had put her whole heart into it, and it was hard for me to tell her I didn't think it was what the Lokum people wanted, especially coming from a man. Rose's jingle went:

*"When my babies suffer and shake
Lokum's soothes their every ache."*

Two more days passed, and the jingles got poorer. To aggravate matters, Father heard a rumor that Cramer had sent in a jingle the day after his letter came.

Father, on the point of panic, ordered me out of the field and into the house. "What did I send you to school for, if you can't make up another jingle? Use your head, son!"

I worked so hard that Rose was practically on the verge of tears suffering for me. Then Father conceived an idea. "Let's sing, all of us—Stanley's partial to good music. Maybe it'll help him." Father outlasted the others. For a whole day he sang an old army song, whose chorus went:

*"All around the wheel of fortune,
It goes round and wearies me.
Young men's words are very uncertain,
Sad experience teaches me."*

It was no help.

On Sunday, when the Wrycjowski's drove down to visit, I asked Rose's Dad what he used Lokum's for, hoping to gain a fresh idea for my jingle. "Me?" said Mr. Wrycjowski. "For colds. I drink her overnight. My stomach—

aie-yie," said Mr. Wrycjowski, "my stomach! But the cold—"

"Good heavens, Mr. Wrycjowski," I said, "it's not to be taken internally. It says so on the bottle."

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Mr. Wrycjowski went inside and told his wife it was no wonder he wasn't feeling so well lately, he'd been poisoning himself for years.

By Monday noon, I was ready to give up. Sadly, with Rose weeping at my shoulder, I read the Lokum Company's letter for the last time. Fortune had been that close. And then, sheer inspiration hit me.

The jingle, finished, read:

*"Until the war of 1812,
Pain ruled the human realm.
Then Lokum's liniment emerged—
The Pain-Killer supreme!"*

Pa collapsed when I read it to him. "Son," he whispered hoarsely, "I knew if we all worked at it, we'd do it. That Jay Cramer never even heard of Napoleon or the war of 1812."

"That was the war between Canada and the States."

"Of course, of course," croaked my father. "But when you look as far into politics as I have, Stanley, you'll see the Napoleonic influence behind it all."

On June 6, when we were almost finished seeding the oats, Ed and Bub raced across the field waving another envelope. This time there was no doubt. Inside was a letter of praise from the Lokum people. Likewise a beautiful green cheque—\$40!

"There you are, Stanley," said my father, his voice back to normal again. "Now, the real test is upon you. Anyone can compose a jingle. Anyone can get hold of money. The big thing is, what are you going to do with this windfall?"

My father said, "I want you to ask yourself what a successful man would do with that money. Would he invest it in a new seeder, at a time when the price of seeders is coming down? By the way, there's a good second-hand implement agency north on First Street in Edmonton. . . . Or would he," continued my father, "take \$10 and file a quarter of land—next to his father's, so the two could work together—and save the rest for emergencies? I hear that the Smoltz boys have their eyes on that quarter west of us. Once they get a \$10 bill in their hands—hah! Good-bye land."

Inside 24 hours, an amazing number of people dropped in to visit us—Ed and Bub told the school kids about my fame. Nearly everyone mentioned what a fine head for business I had. At my nod, I could have had a good bull, another ox or \$40 worth of good spruce lumber that, said the seller, would be worth double the money by fall.

My father advised me not to rush. "Even better deals may present themselves, son. The thing is to wait. Act indifferent."

"But, Pa, I'm getting confused. I hate not buying things from people."

"Nonsense," he said. "They don't really expect you to buy. But they figure there's no harm in trying. Son, when will you tumble to these things? You won't always have your father to think for you."

THAT same night, Rose suggested we go for a walk. Walking, she thought we should get married, now we had the money to do it.

"But, Rose! You can't just do that. Wouldn't it be better to invest the money wisely, then maybe in the fall—"

"Maybe!" said Rose bitterly. "Young men's words sure are very uncertain."

It was the first time Rose and I had ever really quarrelled, and I almost wished the Lokum factory had got blown up in the war of 1812.

The next day, as we started seeding greenfeed, the right wheel on the seeder collapsed. Father said calmly he had better go west. He had noticed one wheel still attached to Olsen's old seeder.

"Meanwhile, Stanley," he said, "if you'd like to go to Edmonton and make a few speculations, I can manage here alone. We're early, anyway. I'm not going to ask you to carry with you a picture of this seeder—or to ask you to visualize what it'll be like trying to seed a crop with it next year if we get frozen out this year again. If the worst happens, we can always broadcast the seed and be back in the dark ages, as well as pitied by neighbors. It's your money, Spend it—wisely."

FROM the moment Pa mentioned I might go to Edmonton, I went into a kind of coma. I was hardly out of it when I came back on the Sunday night train. I had spent the money, every last cent of it, and only when I saw the station-master starting to unload express, did I fully realize that the miracle of being a man of money was over.

Ed and Bub met me. The Wrycjowski's had come down to visit, and it wasn't good manners for father to leave company. Mr. Wrycjowski had lent the boys his team of horses and wagon, so we'd get home sooner.

"Did you get my harmonica?" Bob asked.

"I wanted spoon hooks." This from Ed.

"What's this?" Bub's voice rose at sight of a square cardboard box the station agent was wheeling toward us. "That's a mighty small-looking seeder."

"It's not a seeder," I said, with both dignity and apprehension. "And don't ask questions till we get home."

With the horses, it took only two hours. The sun was setting and robins were singing in the black poplars on Mother's side of the cabin. Mr. Wrycjowski and Father came out when Bunts, our dog, started barking. Mr. Wrycjowski appeared indifferent to the sense of excitement emanating from the boys. He examined his team critically, to see if we had galloped them.

My father watched in silence as the packages were unloaded. Without his asking, he knew the \$40 was gone. And without the \$40, I suddenly felt that Father and I were back on the same footing as before Lokum's recognized the worth of my jingles.

Mother was resting on the couch when I carried in the box. Bub and Ed took the smaller parcels. Rose and Mrs. Wrycjowski sat beside Mother. They had been talking a long time, for the coal-oil lamp wasn't lit.

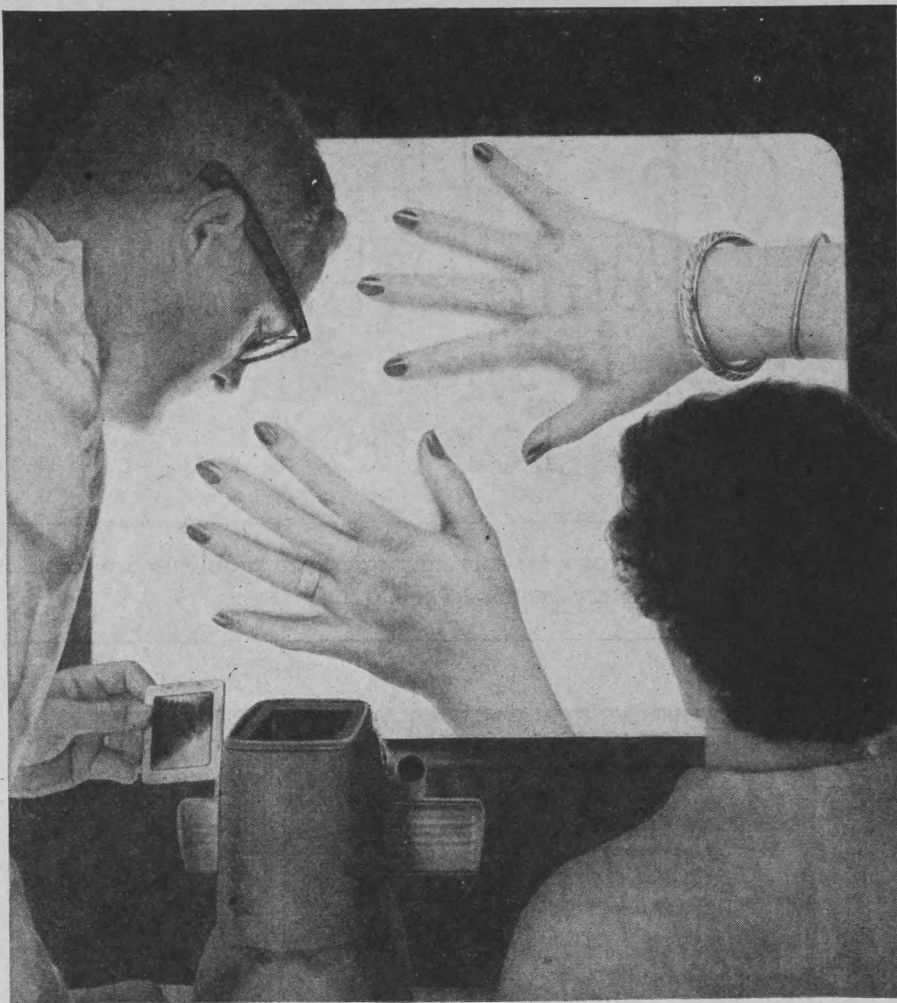
Rose got up stiffly. "Stanley, I have kept some supper warm for you."

"No, no, Rose, later. I had a sandwich on the train."

I was too excited to eat just then, but there were certain formalities to undergo. I touched a match to the lamp and put the globe in place.

"Did you see much?" Mother asked.

I commented properly on the crowds, the stores, the street cars. "I stayed at the St. Louis Hotel—near the

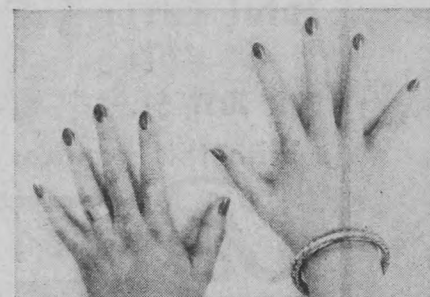


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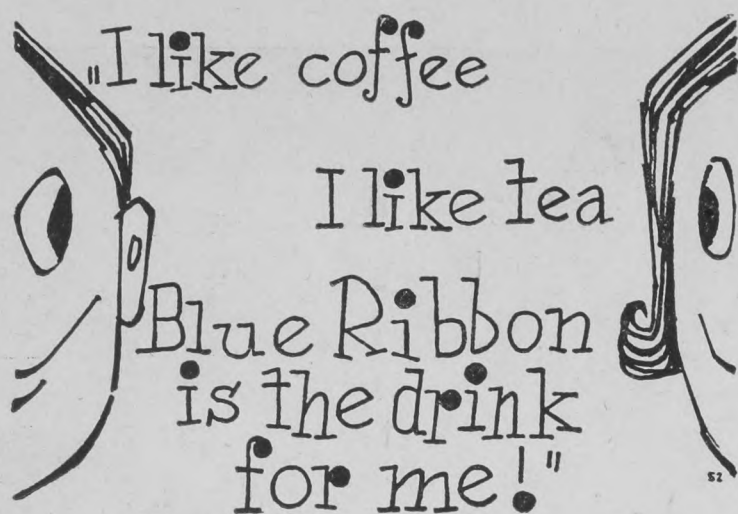
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used machinery lot," I went on. "I looked over the seeders—"

"Did you buy one?" There was a ray of hope in Father's face. It had suddenly occurred to him that if I had, it would come by freight.

I shook my head. "They didn't look like much, Pa. What's the sense of buying a wreck?"

"Where did you buy then?" From Rose—stiffly.

"Well, a Mr. Mike Finkelstein called me in to look over his store. I was getting a harmonica for Bub—"

"The inferno below us!" whispered my father strickenly. "Stanley, you can tell us the details later. Show us what you wasted your money on."

THE first parcel I opened contained a sweat pad for MacDuff.

"For the love of heaven!" whispered Father, aghast. "What kind of fellow are you, Stanley?"

"Without MacDuff we'd never have got the money," I explained.

I went over to Rose and gave her a strand of dime-store pearls. "They're not much, Rose," I said; and for the first time in my life, words came hard to me. "But I wanted to show you I was glad you came down. And—and to show you that—"

"Kid," said Mr. Wrycjowski sadly. "What good's them on a homestead? Girls nowadays, all they think of—"

"Be quiet, Papa," said Mrs. Wrycjowski.

Mr. Wrycjowski looked at her with his mouth open. "Mamma! What's she want them things for? Better something to wear—"

"Wear!" Rose had put the pearls around her neck. She stood up, crying. "That's the first present anyone ever gave me in my life. All I ever got was something to eat or wear—" Rose fled from the room.

"Let her go," said my mother softly. "A good cry always helps a body."

"Stanley," said my father, in a martyr's voice, "what's in that?" He pointed to the cardboard box.

I opened it slowly. It was a phonograph, with two little doors that you opened, depending on whether you wanted the music loud or low. It was the first phonograph in Wild Brier Valley. I wet my lips.

"Mr. Finkelstein said a bit of music would lighten the loads up here."

"Sure!" said my father. "It's a wonder he didn't tell you the cows would milk better if you played it to them. Nellie, what in the inferno's the matter with you?"

My mother was crying. "I haven't seen one since we left Kansas," she said. "It—it brought back memories, that's all, Sam."

"Mother," I said, "I bought it mostly for you. With this, it won't take so long for the time to pass."

I wound it up and put a record on—*Seeing Nellie Home*.

The music came out, stirring and wonderful. And with it, slowly at first, then stronger, something else seemed to flow into the room. The spruce logs faded, and the peeled beams across the ceiling, and the thoughts of next day's work . . . or last year's frost.

My kid brothers stood transfixed. Mr. Wrycjowski looked at his wife; the

tears were streaming down her face, too. Only Pa stood in the middle of the floor, glaring at the phonograph as if it were Jay Cramer.

But when the record was done, he moved unsteadily. He looked at Mother propped up on the couch. Then slowly, awkwardly, he went over and sat down beside her.

"Nellie," he said. "Remember the night in Kansas when I first met you? We were on a hayride, and coming home I sang that song for you."

I put on *Long, Long Trail A-Winding*. My father laughed at my mother and said, "Tell you something I've never let on about before. When I was over there in the war, and we sang that song, I could always see you Nellie. I always said to myself if I got out and got to you again . . ."

I opened the little brown doors wider and you couldn't hear the rest. I played *Old Black Joe*, *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*, *Wind That Shakes the Barley* and, especially for Mr. Wrycjowski's benefit, Chopin's *Poly-naise*. Mr. Finkelstein said anyone with a drop of Polish blood in their veins would weep over that.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Wrycjowski were weeping. Mrs. Wrycjowski said, in a faint voice, they'd better get home, the pigs were still to be fed.

"Let them go hungry for once," said Mr. Wrycjowski. "And, Stanley, instead of playing that da-da-da-dad stuff, play *Seeing Nellie Home* again."

My brothers wanted to play the phonograph then, and Pa got up from the couch and spoke to me in a low voice that couldn't be heard above the music.

"Stanley," my father said, "I reckon complaining gets to be a habit. But, son—it doesn't mean nothing when it's among those you love." He looked at the floor. "If you'd bought a seeder, it would have worn out. In the fall, I'll see you won't be forgotten, if you want a homestead or something. Sometimes, Stanley," said my father, "a fellow should realize he don't always need to use his head. Sometimes using your heart is better."

I went out to where my dark-eyed Rose stood silently at the kitchen window. She had her hands closed around the pearls at her throat.

"Rose?" I touched her shoulder. "Rose, maybe the necklace isn't much. But some day—"

"Stanley!" Rose whirled around and raised her arms. "Oh, Stanley, don't ask me to explain! Just believe that as long as I live, I'll never tire of waiting for you. Not now."

It was a night to remember. We made a lunch and played the phonograph without ending. Even Ed and Bub were allowed to stay up. It was long past midnight when Mr. Wrycjowski finally hitched up his horses and he and his wife drove homeward. Rose would stay on with us for a few days longer.

Together, we stood outside, listening to the rattle of wagon wheels dying in the night. Listening to her father's voice fading finally in the distance.

"I was see-in' Nellie ho-oh-home,
I was seein' Nellie home:
Hurr-ee up, you stupid, silly horses,
I was seein' Nellie home . . ."

Pie Filling For Filling Cans

*Experimental Station and canners combine
to find the solution to a fruit problem*

by P. W. LUCE

THE British Columbia Fruit Processors, Ltd., of Kelowna, is looking around for loganberries, and not finding nearly enough. This fruit has not been exactly in the front rank in past years, but it is now wanted for canned pie filling. The marketing firm believes that a big demand can be created for this filling.

Logans are grown mostly on the lower mainland, and only as a sideline. Production in the interior is almost negligible.

Canned loganberry pie filling has been introduced, because the present-day housewife rather likes to take things easier than her mother did. She prefers fruit that comes in cans, to fruit that has to be peeled and processed before it is ready to become part of a pie.

Fruit Processors, Ltd. fills this need. The firm already offers canned filling of peach, plum, apricot, and pear, and is confident of a good market for loganberries.

R. P. Walrod, general manager, says that the pie product will be 49 per cent loganberry, 26 per cent apple, and 25 per cent sugar. The combination is arranged by flavor, as decided by a taste panel. The cost of the materials is not considered in the percentage combination, though it has to be considered in the final price tag.

A small quantity of minute tapioca is used as a thickener, but no fillers, or extenders, such as melon rind or sugar beets, are used. This is rather a radical departure. In the past, producers have been somewhat generous in the use of these materials, when the supply was available,—and the cost was negligible.

In the canning trade, it has been usual to refer to a raspberry filling as a 50-50 raspberry-and-apple filling, but this did not necessarily mean that these were the proportions of the fruit used. Somewhat caustically, the employees would explain that the 50-50 division meant one apple to one raspberry!

The raspberry was perfect.

The apple, most often, was a cull.

AT the Summerland Experimental Station the Fruit Products Laboratory has worked out special pie fillings for all tree fruits and berries. The station makes these findings available to all canneries or processors, and

gives any additional information that may be desired.

Not all of these pie fillings will be seen on the market for some time. The required fruit is not available. For instance, sour cherries would make a most popular filling, but there are only 20 acres of sour cherries in the Okanagan Valley. That isn't enough to warrant the buying of a complicated and expensive pitting machine. There would have to be at least 100

acres planted to sour cherries to justify a producer putting up the required money. It isn't likely to happen.

No special machine is needed to prepare black currants for pie filling, but this berry is not exactly popular in British Columbia. It makes excellent jam, but as only 70 tons are produced annually that isn't enough for pie fillings. The nearest source of adequate supply is Tasmania, a country with poor freight service.

Pie fillings worked out by the Summerland Experimental Station in which producers and canners are particularly interested, include various kinds of apple, apricot, peach, plum, blackberry, blackberry-apple, blueberry, blueberry-apple, loganberry-apple, raspberry, raspberry-apple, and strawberry.

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He Built a Better Silo

Continued from page 11

"home" farm of Mrs. Houle's parents and new land purchased to satisfy the needs of the growing herd. About 32 acres have been set aside as pasture, and the rest used for growing hay. The pasture land consists of 10 acres on the old farm, which is used for the 20-head milking herd, and 22 acres on the new land, kept for the young stock and dry cows. The 10-acre field is divided into five two-acre plots to accommodate a pasture rotation and strip grazing system that allows a complete grazing of the field about seven times in the six-month grazing season. Within each two-acre pasture, an electric fence, moved every 12 hours, confines the cows to allotted grazing strips; every four or five days they are moved to a new one, which brings them back to the first pasture in about three weeks' time. On the 22-acre field, grazing is less intense; this has been divided into two 11-acre pastures which are rotated monthly, with the stock having the complete run of each field. When grass growth is heavy, a silage cut is taken from one of these pastures.

Intensive pasture use means a bit more care in pasture management. As each two-acre plot of the home field is grazed, Wilf chain harrows it to spread the manure around, then clips to level any ungrazed tufts. To bring the new growth on in a hurry, he then irrigates the pasture, and puts on a top dressing of 33 per cent ammonium nitrate (100 pounds to the acre); twice a year he gives the whole 10 acres a boost with 700 pounds of a complete fertilizer (6-28-25). This extra care pays off with increased yields; during the flush season, pasture growth is generally so heavy the cows can't keep up with it and Wilf has to clip to keep the grass in check.

FOR winter feeding, the Houles use hay, silage, and grain. At one time they tried to do away with the grain ration, but found that milking fell away off and breeding troubles developed in the herd. They believe in feeding a cow all it will eat—so far, the most they've been able to get into an average-sized animal in one day is 20 pounds of hay, 40 pounds of silage, and 14 pounds of grain.

Up until the present time, silage has been a mixture of alfalfa and brome grass, put down with 60 pounds of molasses and 20 pounds of whole barley to the ton. But in future, the Houles intend to put only grass in

the silo, and leave their alfalfa for hay. This will enable them to finish with silage making before it's time to start haying. The grass silage will be a two-to-one mixture of grass and clover, containing orchard grass, brome grass, meadow fescue, Italian rye, and Ladino clover.

Labor problems are solved at Wilfann Farm by a handy, co-operative arrangement with four neighbors, where they pool their time and machines to harvest hay and silage crops. When Wilf's turn comes, he has five tractors and harvesters plus five men available for the job, and they deliver 60 two-ton loads of forage to his silo in three days' working time. This costs him only the price of the gas he uses for all five machines, in addition to the time he puts in when they're working on the other farms.

Co-operation among neighbors also built and maintains the Canyon district's water system, which supplies all domestic and irrigation water needs for a flat rate of \$9.00 a year. There are 42 water users on the system today; the water comes from the deep canyon of the Goat River which cuts through the area and gives the district its name. The eight-inch water line carries a pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch, and was built without government aid in 1921, each user contributing \$650 toward the construction cost. For many years they paid no annual water fee at all, but had to levy the \$9.00 charge, finally, when the line fell into disrepair. A full-time watchman patrols the system now, and a reserve fund of \$3,700 has been built up from the fees collected to meet any future needs.

Wilf Houle feels that he must put from 14 to 15 inches of water on his land a year, over and above the Valley's annual rainfall of about 18 inches. He uses Rainbird No. 40 sprinklers, placed 40 feet apart on the main line, and at the ends of adjoining 40-foot laterals, all serviced by portable aluminum pipes.

Looking into the future, the Houles see Creston Valley as the milkshed of the East and West Kootenay regions. A new highway to be built over the "hump" to the cities of Nelson and Trail will cut 25 miles and a long ferry trip from the present Kootenay Lake route, and bring these busy centers within 50 miles of them.

"We have no fluid milk surplus," they point out, "and milk can be produced cheaper here than anywhere else in British Columbia."

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The tractor has been driven out from the pit, bringing the front roof section to open position; rear section is pulled in opposite direction onto high ground.

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Young People

On the farm and at home

How Do You Rate?

IN the high school crowd do you say to your pals, "Old Jones sure piled on the maths homework tonight. How do you like him?" That's a loaded question, teen-ager!

Did you ever think there could be two sides to that question? How about asking yourself, "Does Mr. Jones like me?" Let's see how many A's for personality Mr. Jones would give you?

The maths class has begun and you are late. You enter the room like a whirlwind, arms loaded with books. You tromp down the aisle, flying coat knocking off your classmate's book, then flop down ungracefully in your seat. Decked out in a not-too-clean blouse and unpressed skirt, hair straggly and uncured, because you didn't take five minutes to "set" it last night, you slump in your seat. Mr. Jones is again calling his maths class to order and is ready to check your homework. Where is it? Yes, you did it, but in which scribbler? At this point Mr. Jones fixes you with a stern eye and asks for the assignment. At last you've found the black scribbler in the confused jumble of your desk. As you hand over your work you notice that Mr. Jones glances at your hands with your broken nails and bright red polish chipped and half-worn. "Are these the corrections for yesterday's work?" he asks coldly.

"Yah," you reply vaguely as you stand up half-stooped over, "I dunno—I guess that's what it is." Horrors you've given him your science notebook!

"When you're sure you may bring it to me after four," Mr. Jones says and turns abruptly away from you.

Perhaps you feel you've been treated unfairly and are resentful toward your teacher *but* are you honest with yourself? Mr. Jones is human and he finds your attitude irritating—your popularity rating with him is E minus. Don't forget, teen-ager, that your relationship with your teacher may easily spell success or failure to your high school career. Teachers rate high those students whose dress, appearance and manners are of a good standard.

Sometimes after school, you meet your teacher as a guest in your or a friend's home, at a party or as a team-member in a game. You find that he or she is quite "different" than in school, is lots of fun, adds good ideas and is willing to take and carry out orders. In short, you are getting to know your teacher as a person.

Remember that teachers are *people*, human beings who respond to a student's conduct, good or bad. Your language, posture, appearance and manners are all indications of your personality. How do you rate with your teacher? V

Club Widens Interests

These 4-H'ers abandoned a one-project plan for a general one, which includes about four projects

WHEN the Erskine 4-H Club was formed over a dozen years ago, like other Alberta clubs, it had only one project for its members. But as the interests of members broadened, the club, located just west of Stettler in central Alberta, expanded its program till now it includes dairy, grain, beef, and poultry projects each year.

With a membership of over 40 young people, and in fact, a beef section counting 23, the club is busier than most, despite such a general program.

For example, encouraged by their grey-haired, and quiet-spoken club leader, Dick Gabriel, who has been guiding the youngsters for nearly a decade now, the beef group initiated

an inter-club competition for the best group of five fat cattle at their summer achievement day. They have been battling with the Boiha club for the past four years for honors in this keen competition and each club has two wins. This stirs up a healthy competitive spirit and challenges their judgment. The members themselves must select the calves they want in the group. The leader refuses to do this for them.

The grain club recently won the theme display competition at their achievement day, by developing an exhibit emphasizing the importance of quality on the farm—whether in seed potatoes or in hay.

The poultry club has a different problem. It lacks competition from other local groups, so it stages its own achievement day with members exhibiting and auctioning their birds when the Christmas season is approaching.

Another project has worked well too. The club insists on supporting itself financially rather than depending on contributions, and at the latest beef club achievement day, set up a refreshment booth. Tended by club members with a little supervision from parents, it catered to the thirst and appetite of visitors and netted a nice sum for the club treasury.

The club holds 12 regular meetings a year, in which they cover their program in a broad way. But special meetings are called as well, where attention is given to beef or dairy or poultry or grain projects. Often these are called just before achievement day. This is possible because to some extent, each project is seasonal. For instance, beef is emphasized in the summer, then the grain achievement day in the fall, and the poultry day during the winter. Erskine club members say it adds up to a busy and useful year.

Club leader Gabriel is well aware that most Canadian 4-H clubs handle only one project. Erskine group has grown a bit differently. He isn't prepared to say it is better or worse than the accepted type. Each has advantages. But he can point with pride to achievements and show that his club doesn't take a back seat to any.—D.R.B. V

A Fancy Vase

YOU can make yourself a fancy vase from any shaped jar, using your collection of odd earrings, fancy buttons or colored stones from discarded pins. Choose your vase from fancy vinegar bottles, pickle or jam jars you may have around, or buy a cheap glass vase. Get some clear varnish and putty.

First—paint a coat of clear varnish on the vase or jar or bottle.

Second—cover it with putty.

Third—give it another coat of clear varnish to help the slow drying putty.

Fourth—stud it with your pretty baubles. Press into a pattern if you prefer or just place them in a haphazard design, mixing colors, shapes and sizes.

The result is a jewel starred vase which is quite different. If you want to make several, keep the putty in a plastic bag, then it won't dry out. It can be kneaded while in the bag.—Mrs. E. V. Rivers. V



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Mexican Agriculture

Continued from page 9

Next year it is expected that the plan will be extended beyond the smaller area in which it was started, and will become republic-wide. Crops now covered include cotton, rice, sesame, peanuts, corn, potatoes, chile, wheat, barley and chickpeas.

MEXICO'S livestock industry involves approximately 40 million head of all kinds of livestock combined: cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, mules and burros. There is available for livestock use about 140 million acres of good pasture land, with other potential land available for development and use in the years to come. During the past three years forward strides have been made in Mexico's livestock industry, and the total capital value of the industry is now placed at \$1.6 billion.

Mexico's cattle industry received a very severe blow when foot-and-mouth disease struck in 1946 and closed Mexican entry into the United States markets for a period of six years. During this period sanitary rifle brigades roamed an area covering 469,000 square kilometers. Between March, 1947, and November, 1948, the rifle-men killed 937,163 animals, for which the owners received indemnities amounting to almost \$20 million.

This drastic action, often bitterly fought by small, ignorant herd owners, is now acknowledged to have saved Mexico's cattle industry from extinction. A small outbreak in Veracruz in 1953, shut down the U.S.-Mexican frontier again, but it was reopened at the beginning of 1955.

A special unit to direct the expansion and modernization of the cattle industry has been established within the Department of Agriculture, and along with this, a drive has begun, to increase the per capita consumption of meat in Mexico. This presently stands at a low of about an ounce-and-a-half per person per day, while the average daily consumption of milk per person in Mexico is only a tiny fraction of an ounce.

Annual livestock slaughter amounts to about three million head, of which 1.3 million head are cattle, the remainder being pigs, goats and sheep. Commercial livestock are handled

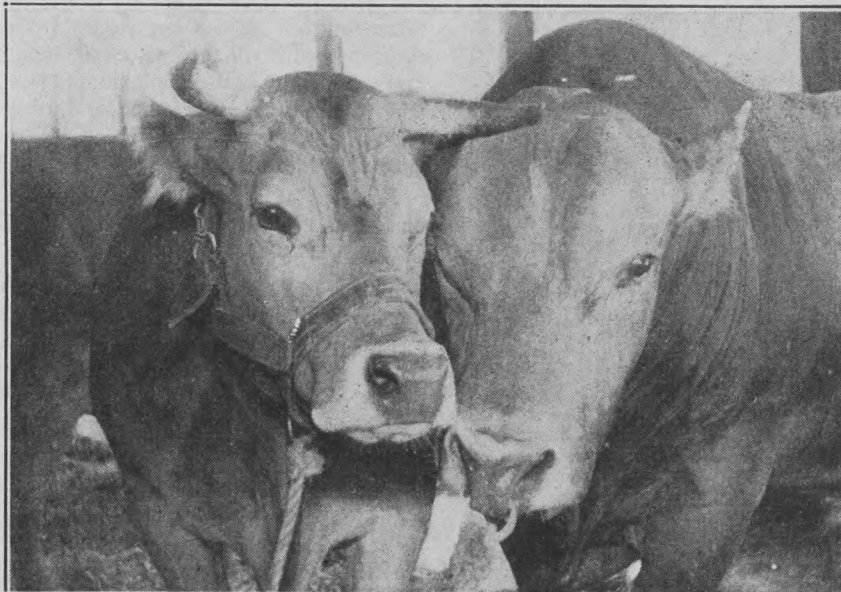
through 17 packing and refrigeration plants which have been established with the aid of a semi-official government credit agency known as Nacional Financiera. Mexico hopes to develop new European markets for canned meat products and will step up its processing facilities as needed.

THERE are three principal areas which contribute to the Mexican cattle industry. Cattle in the northern zone are raised principally for export. These were hit hard by the closing of the U.S. market, and in this extremity the government provided transportation facilities for the movement of cattle into the vast central portion of Mexico.

In this northern area the climatic conditions are unfavorable for the European breeds of cattle. There are considerable numbers of Herefords in the northern zone and in the large central breadbasket plains of Mexico, but they cannot be introduced on a very large scale owing to the excessive heat, the many tropical areas and the difficulty of securing sufficient feed. Herefords do not sweat, and therefore suffer severely in the hot Mexican climate. They have been crossed with hardy domestic stock such as the Palomas cattle, and resistance to heat has been improved, but the actual value of these crossbreds has not been fully determined.

The experience of Mexican packing plants in the north suggests that fully 60 per cent of the cattle slaughtered carry Hereford blood. Nevertheless, feeding is such an important problem that the average slaughter weight scarcely reaches 560 pounds. Work is now under way to provide credits which will permit ranchers to grow more alfalfa, and finance large well-drilling programs to ensure a sufficient water supply.

The central zone or plateau has been the chief supplier of Mexican domestic markets, principally the Federal District, including Mexico City and surrounding territory. In this area the cattle are usually of hardy domestic strains, but of indiscriminate breeding. They run to heavier weights than those in other cattle regions, but in age they run from four to five years. There is enough idle grassland in the central and southern areas of Mexico, however, to provide pasture for the approximately 19 million head of cattle in the republic.



Brown Swiss cattle, used to improve Mexican herds. Crosses between these and Zebu strains from India have proved highly adaptable to Mexican conditions.

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The southern area includes Tabasco and Northern Chiapas, and this general area provides beef for the entire Yucatan peninsula.

Federal assistance has gone toward the establishment of research stations devoted to the improvement of animal health, as well as toward improved methods of cattle production, the introduction of purebred breeding stock, the improvement of cattle through crossing various strains, and the establishment of an official system of purebred registration.

MEXICO has paid special attention to the importation of Zebu breeding bulls from India, and these have already established the basis for cattle herds in the tropical states, which will be resistant to heat. The Zebu readily accustoms itself to the Mexican heat, and Mexico's experience with this breed followed a successful experience in Costa Rica. Statistics now show that though the Zebu has made its principal contribution only during the last two to four years, the production of meat and milk has been increased in some cases by as much as 100 per cent.

Experiments are also under way in Mexico in which European breeds are crossed with the Indian breeds, or strains. Nothing definite has been established in this direction as yet. Imports have been made of Nellore, Guzerat, Gir and Sindhi strains, by some Mexican cattlemen with advanced ideas. In Tabasco, the Zebu has been crossed with Swiss cattle to produce animals with a high meat yield.

Along with efforts of the Mexican government to develop the cattle industry, technical aid has also been provided by FAO, with a view to developing new and better fodder plants. The cattle areas also have been dotted with artificial insemination stations, so that first-class sires will be available with which to improve the scrawny native herds.

Purebred Canadian Holstein bulls of high quality have been imported from Canada. One lot of 70 bulls secured through the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada has given a high level of satisfaction to date, and the plan is to introduce more registered Canadian stock into the state of Mexico, which is in the central plateau area, and a well-developed milk basin.

The imported Canadian Holstein bulls were sold to dairymen at about one-third of actual cost as a spur to improved milk production. These dairymen, in turn, provide the capital city with approximately 100,000 gallons of milk daily; and as further improved strains are added, Mexico City residents will before long be drinking a much richer product—when it is not adulterated.

It is significant that with a live cattle improvement program has come a resurgence of state, regional and national livestock fairs. Here the best cattle produced in Mexico vie for blue ribbons. Nearly all of these cattle have resulted from the government artificial insemination program, and offer living proof of the substantial results that have been achieved within the past five years. The animals exhibited range from standard purebreds and crossbreds to patrician Zebras, like one champion bought by a cattleman for \$40,000. This animal was almost slaughtered by an over-

zealous sanitary rifleman in 1953. The owner drove off the rifleman with a rifle of his own; and now his animal consistently wins prizes at Veracruz and the national livestock fairs. V

Chance for Mink Ranchers

by D. W. S. RYAN

NEWFOUNDLAND'S mink industry is off to a successful start. Dr. A. H. Kennedy of the Ontario Veterinary College and one of the leading fur experts of North America recently visited the new ranching development area at Dildo, Trinity Bay.

He was greatly impressed with what he saw, and expressed the belief that, in time, the province can become not only one of the leading mink ranching provinces of Canada, but in the whole of North America.

Most of the ranchers in the area are mainlanders who transported their mink to Newfoundland during the winter and spring.

One of the factors which impressed Dr. Kennedy was that very few, if any, mink were lost en route, and although many were transported just before whelping time, from as far away as British Columbia, there were no losses in females and their young. Thus, ranches in the Dildo area have one of the highest production rates in the whole of Canada. He noted that there was one litter of 11 kits, and on another ranch he noted ascending records from five to ten-kit litters.

Ranchers are feeding their mink on whale meat, fish, cereal, and other ingredients. Whale meat is the chief source of feed, as whales strike in abundantly in the area. Their meat costs ranchers a reported two cents a pound.

Dr. Kennedy noted that the mink were thriving well on this food. "There is no reason at all," he states, "to doubt that fish and whale meat, in combination with other ingredients, can make an excellent mink diet; and that whale meat can replace horse meat entirely in the mink ration."

Farmers in the area have organized themselves into a co-operative body and are providing their own feed. They are planning to have a delivery service of pre-mixed feed for their members. Such a service will greatly aid the successful development of the mink industry in the area, "and will be the means of encouraging many permanent residents to engage in ranching as a supplement to present income."

The site selected is an excellent one, notes Dr. Kennedy, and the buildings are "some of the finest in the whole Dominion. As a matter of fact," he reports, "I have not seen better anywhere."

Opportunities for mink ranching in Newfoundland are excellent, states the fur expert. "Climate appears to be very suitable, and there is no question at all of suitable land and ranch sites; and basic food for mink is, apparently, found in abundance and at relatively cheap prices."

Dr. Kennedy spent five days at Dildo, the site of the government-subsidized mink industry, looking over the recent developments in mink ranching, at the invitation of the provincial government. V

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WITH the children to care for and your home to look after, chances are your wife doesn't have much time to spare for the business of farming.

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The Red Riding Hood Doll

by IRIS ALLAN

MY most unforgettable Christmas was when I was six years old. The youngest of four children, and in a family where money was not plentiful, my deepest desire was for a doll all my own. I had owned dolls before, but like most of my clothes, they were hand-me-downs of my sisters. Although I loved those dolls I never felt they were truly my own.

Christmas in those days centered around our church, the community center. A huge tree was traditional, and each year it was the big event for the children.

That year, as I gazed in awe at the beautiful tree, one object caught my

eye—a Red Riding Hood doll. About a foot high, clothed in a white dress and a red satin cape, she stood in all her beauty against the green of the tree.

Of course it couldn't happen—not to me. But I made plans about the doll. I would watch and listen, and when the name was called for the owner to come forward I would go to her. It would be one of the older girls of course, for anyone of six years was far too young to own such a fabulous treasure.

At last came the calling of the names, and I stood on a chair, the better to watch the proceedings, for

I was a sickly delicate child, and small for my age.

In my absorption to find the owner of the doll, I had forgotten that my name, too, would be called. The endless list went on, till finally—it happened. The teacher reached for the Red Riding Hood doll and I stopped breathing. She looked up with a smile, "Iris Sommerville," she announced.

A paralysis gripped me. It simply wasn't, couldn't be true! Someone helped me off the chair and I walked as though in a dream to receive the doll. When I held her in my arms, at last, I knew she was truly mine.

Christmases have come and gone. I have received presents finer, more expensive by far than the Red Riding Hood doll, but none shall live in my memory as long as she. Now, almost four decades later, during countless

moves, from one town to another, from one house to another, she is still with me. The satin cape is gone, discarded at last when it fell to shreds, but she still wears the original dress, petticoat and panties in which she came to me.

What shall I do with my doll? It is selfish of me to keep her I know, for she gave me such deep pleasure. Someday, I promise myself, I shall find a family a little like mine was, with a little girl who never really owned a doll of her very own. I shall dress my doll in new clothes, with a beautiful satin cape to tie under the chin, and see a child's face light up that she is to have a doll she never dared believe could belong to her.

At least once in her lifetime a little girl who doesn't have too much of the world's goods should be given a Red Riding Hood doll to love forever.

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The Countrywoman

Library matters reviewed at national meeting — by AMY J. ROE

Burden-Bearers

*Burden-bearers are we all,
Great and small.
Burden-sharers be ye all,
Great and small!
Where another shares the load,
Two draw nearer God.
Yet there are burdens we can share with none
Save God;
And paths remote where we must walk alone
With God:
For lonely burden and for path apart—
Thank God!
If these but serve to bring the burdened heart
To God.*

—JOHN ORENHAM.

"Any endeavor to write about bygone days should have as its aim: to show the past, to mean the present and to build up for the future."—from *THIS IS THE HOUR*, by Lion Feuchtwanger.

The Household Woman

The home woman is the indispensable woman. It has been wisely remarked that we could do without women who have made careers for themselves in all other directions, but without the home woman we should have to shut up shop at once. The homemaker is an absolutely necessary element, the woman the world cannot do without.

It is a pity, therefore, that the home woman allows herself so often to fail of her full development and reward. She is apt to be unselfish and so conscientious that she lets the four walls of home narrow about her. The "household" woman, as she has been called, does not get enough exercise every day, nor does she breathe enough of the outside air of thought and action to refresh her spirit.

The simplest remedy is that of at least one outside interest. The woman who takes up one hobby, one charity, one line of work beyond her household cares and follows it steadily will find that it brings freshness and power with it. It becomes both outlook and inflow to her. The study and collection of old china, reading up a special subject, making a garden—any one of these, if pursued thoroughly, will bring her in touch with others and open vistas of interest unending. And the woman with a hobby grows old so slowly that she often never grows old at all, but keeps to the last that freshness of interest which is the mark of youth.

Above item appeared in a Canadian farm magazine 50 years ago—quoted from *Harper's Bazaar*.

During November we shall be hearing much about Young Canada Book Week. Schools, public libraries, home and school groups, parent-teacher associations will participate in programs to interest Canadians in book-reading habits and better acquaintance with the best books by Canadian authors. Be aware of what your community, your province has to give.

MAKE no small plans. Have a plan. After you have made your plan, strike a budget. Do not expect too much at the beginning, but be imaginative for the future. We are living today in an era of larger and "whole" planning.

These thoughts generally but briefly convey the main points in the thinking, discussions and talks of those who gathered in Saskatoon, in late June for the tenth annual conference of the Canadian Library Association. It was one, of some 50 conventions, which met in Saskatchewan this year, to mark and share in Saskatchewan's jubilee-birthday celebrations.

Miss Anne Hume, librarian, Windsor, Ontario, outlined the accomplishments of the organization in the past nine years: the establishment of the National Library Act of Parliament, June 1952; the Canadian Index, now expanding to include documentary films; the Canadian library directory; public library laws; successful organization of a micro-film project, a proposed classification of university libraries, adoption of salary standards for public librarians, and Young Canada Book Week. A brief presented to the Royal Commission on Arts, Letters and Science in Canada, as the members travelled across the country, had the beneficial effect of a fine number of national organizations assembling material and facts, and putting their official position in regard to libraries, in writing. This in turn resulted in some excellent pleading for better support of libraries.

"We have been enlarging our conception of library services; we have been acquiring a national outlook and an international one. We have been finding and trying to remember the weakest spots and we have been continually learning from one another," said Miss Hume.

Through the years, long before the National Library Association was formed at a meeting in Halifax in 1946, a great body of written material concerning the need, status, development and individual story has been gathered in various Canadian provinces. There is evidence aplenty of success and failure, for those who are interested to hunt it out for study. Unhappily, some of it has been pigeonholed in some government-minister's office. Much has been unheard of or forgotten by interested citizens—but not by librarians. Their past and present leaders no doubt, might well say: "I plowed my plow through the evidence, until my plow was dull," quoted by one speaker, source unknown.

There has been considerable "seeding" of ideas and special projects: open shelf libraries, book vans touring country and urban communities, book-deposit stations, travelling boxes of books, smaller branches stemming out from one central large public library, regional libraries functioning across school districts or municipal boundaries, search for financial grants from councils or governments. But the growth has been uneven in the provincial fields. The president, Miss Hume, described the increase in the use of libraries in Canada as due to the expansion of facilities such as new branches, new or rehabilitated main libraries, with some additions in new regional services and bookmobiles in rural and urban areas—"in other words, we are expanding in breadth, but do not seem to be reaching many, if any more, of our old constituents."

THE weakest spots are the rural areas, in Canada, where 24.6 per cent of the people have some public library service; three-quarters of the rural people have no public library service of any kind.

"The problems of the small library are all-prevailing and ever present," said Mrs. Elspeth Young, librarian, of Oakville, Ontario, to the Trustees section. "The sort of storms weathered by the Oakville library makes it a typical case history. One of the problems which seems to be *exploding*, rather than *expanding* in small centers was: Are we going to have sewage disposal plants, the new street

lights or a new library. The 'big bogie' appears to be the matter of financing." She urged that every effort be made to secure citizens interested in serving, to act as trustees on library boards. In the promotion of public relations, the word of a trustee carries more weight in the community than that of the librarian. "Trustees see the library with the eye of the public. Our enthusiasm and conviction enables us as librarians to help them to put the idea across."

In the roll-call of the provinces, as to library development and growth: Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta vied for lowest placing. Alberta "had no plans" and Manitoba, though it has a new library law, a survey in progress, and has made a meagre grant, seems "to be going ahead in a backward sort of way." In the discussion period one speaker pointed out that in his adult experience he had seen the Alberta "grass roots grow shoulder high"—but that had not meant any increase in support of libraries. Noted with amusement was the comment of an Ontario librarian, that in that province "grass roots" is avoided, as a "nasty term." There in the highly industrialized area, cities and towns are spilling out over what was formerly pleasant farming land. "Wherever are all the people coming from?" one harried trustee had asked, noting increased demand for school and library services.

THE theme of the C.L.A. 1955 Conference was:

Planning the Next Decade. We, in Canada, can learn and benefit from the work and experience in the United States in libraries, as much effort and huge sums have been spent there. It was a happy arrangement to have Ralph A. Ulveling, of Detroit Public Libraries give one of the main addresses. By nature and because of many years of administrative responsibility, his frequent contacts with Canadians, as a visitor and consultant he is well fitted to deal with the subject allotted to him: *Future Trends of the Public Library in the Next Ten Years*.

In opening his talk Mr. Ulveling attempted an estimate of his own position: "I have ideals and I cling to them, even though some of them are not realizable—at least in the foreseeable future . . . I am not a dreamer, but neither do I have leaden feet. In any prophecy, there will be some errors. I will limit my forecasting to those trends which are already under way."

We must note, he said, great social changes, some trends which are taking shape about us and their significance to libraries. "In general, Canada and the United States have moved along close parallel lines for so many years that the patterns of life are not greatly different. A trend to note is the very general rise in the educational level of the people. Though the population as a whole has increased, the number of people finishing high school and college is rising at a far more rapid rate."

Between 1920 and 1930, the number of people finishing high school in America had doubled. By 1940 the larger figure had doubled. At the end of the next decade, due to the low birth rate of the depression and war years, 1950 showed only a slight gain over 1940. Based on the current rise since then, estimates now place the number of graduates from high school for 1960 at 1,777,000 and for 1969 at over two and one-half million. "Thus the 50-year cycle will show a growth of eight and one-half times in the number of those finishing high school, comparing 1920 with 1969.

The percentage of increase in the number graduating from college is even more spectacular: an increase of 13 times the 1920 figure in 1969. Thus as we look to the future we must note: "the enormous number of potential users of libraries—that is the people having background educational training to allow wide scope for reading and study."

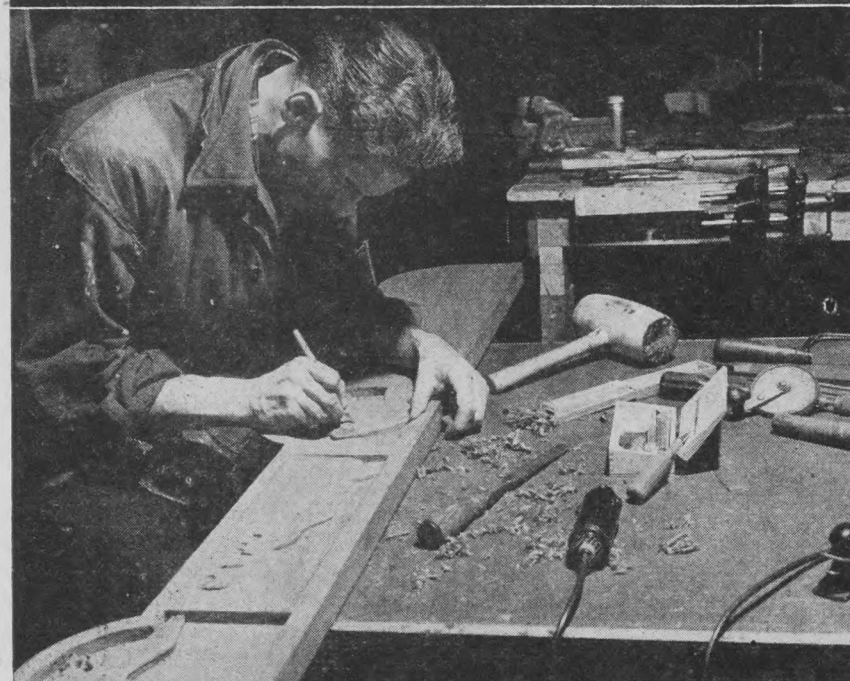
Another trend is the emphasis today on research. "In the U.S. expenditure (Please turn to page 64)

GIFT IDEAS

by FLORENCE WIGHTMAN ROWLAND

National Film Board photos

... on the Hobby Line



Upper: A juvenile percussion band, winners in a Winnipeg musical festival, from film "A City Sings." Centre: Woodcraft proves popular in R.C.N. rehabilitation club-center, Woodlands, N.S. Ex-Petty Officer Raymond W. Standesfer, expert craftsman and teacher, at his bench. Lower: Weaving classes draw girls' interest at Thora School, near Orillia, Ontario.

WITH Christmas just around the corner, we are all thinking about a proper gift for the right person. This is not easy. If you hope to give lasting pleasure, hobby materials or equipment could be the answer to a perplexing problem.

There are two distinct types of leisure-time pursuits — the collecting and the creative. To make a wise choice, you must fit the hobby to the person. Present inclinations and interests of the individual should help you to choose the correct material for each recipient.

Under collecting hobbies there are endless selections—from bottle caps to match boxes, fancy buttons to playing cards, and the more expensive items such as first editions, antique furniture or rare volumes.

Hobbies have more than proven their worth. To the shy child, to the shut-in, or the elderly person a challenging or fascinating interest may brighten many a long, lonely hour. The right hobby brings recreation, a real *re-creation*. The hobbyist loses himself completely in enthusiasm and new interest. Worries cease to be bothersome. The sharp edges of life for him become smoothed. Indeed, one who intensely follows an absorbing hobby is often restored, revitalized. He becomes in a sense a "new person."

Last year Mrs. Hunter was frantic trying to get her housework done and at the same time take care of Harry, aged eight, who was convalescing from an illness. One day the boy spotted a humorous verse in a magazine. He read the item to his mother and they both chuckled over it. "I'll read it to Pop when he comes home. Bet he'll laugh too."

The joy on Harry's face was genuine. Mrs. Hunter realized at once that here was something Harry could handle, even if he was bed-ridden. A

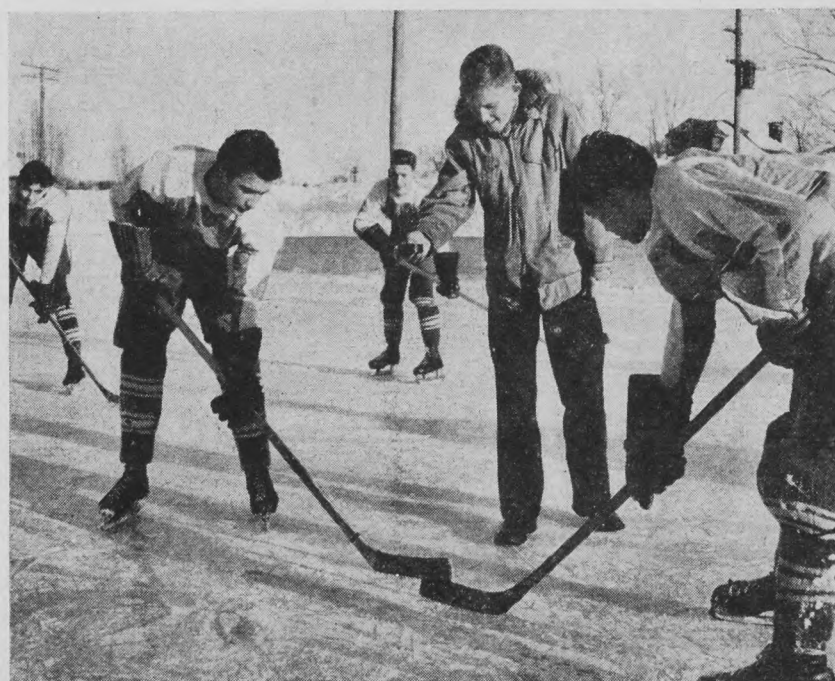
neighbor went to the dime store for scrapbooks and a jar of paste. Mrs. Hunter scouted the neighborhood for old magazines. From that moment on Harry was interested and busy. Every available moment he looked for humorous bits—a verse, a paragraph, or cartoons. His only standard of acceptance was that it had to make him laugh. As each scrapbook was filled the family enjoyed the pages of fun, then the collection was sent to the children's ward of the local hospital. During the three months that Harry was kept in bed, he brought much laughter to himself and other children. Even today, in spite of his school work and paper route, Harry manages to fill a scrapbook every month or so and bicycles to the hospital with it. There he is a familiar sight to the nurses and staff. The youngsters await his visits with great anticipation. Often he reads to a group or shows a child some of the funny pictures.

THERE is much excitement when you are on the lookout for another item for your collection, whether it is a china dog or a colorful button. The search can be fascinating.

Many are familiar with the miniature doll house and furnishings, which movie star Coleen Moore collected. When it was on tour, it delighted young and old alike. It is easy to see how one small item led to another until this amazing hobby was completed to the most minute detail.

If your gift is to a would-be stamp collector, it might be a good idea to include a subscription to a stamp journal along with an album and the first packet of the colorful squares. An atlas or a globe too, might prove appropriate and stimulating. The youngster could then find the country to which the various stamps belong. By-products of this hobby often show up in improved grades in geography and history.

(Please turn to page 64)



Hockey is top-rating pastime with Ottawa high school students.

me Great
White
Chief—



—love squaw who bake-um up
heap big Robin Hood White Cake!

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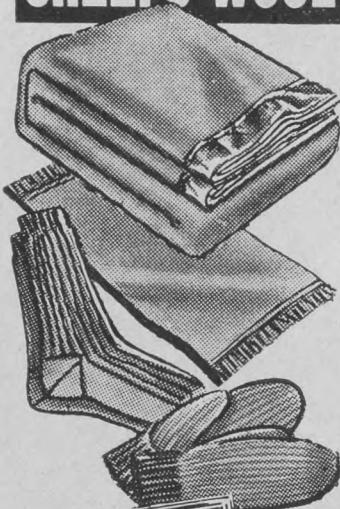
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Ham Leftovers

Encore meals of ham can be as taste tempting
as a freshly baked ham dinner

NEXT time baked ham is the Sunday menu highlight buy a fine big ham. Then include it in several meals within the next week. Leftover ham has so many uses.

To store, cover the ham with waxed paper and refrigerate; and to enjoy leftover ham to the fullest, use it within seven or eight days of its first appearance at the table. Like other cured meats, cured ham should not be frozen.

At breakfast, lunch or dinner ham adds to the meal. Start the day right by serving ham

with the morning eggs, add diced ham to a French omelet or scrambled eggs or broil ham to serve with toast. At noon, ham in a salad, sandwich or ham and pea soup will bring the family to the table on the dot. For dinner have ham casserole, meat loaf or broiled slices.

Ham Casserole

6 slices ham	1/3 c. crushed pineapple
2 tsp. cornstarch	apple
1/4 c. orange juice	1/3 c. dried apricots
1/2 c. pineapple juice	5 dried apricot halves

Gradually mix fruit juice with cornstarch in casserole. Put a layer of serving-size ham slices on bottom of dish. Cut up 1/3 c. dried apricots. Sprinkle cut-up apricots and half the crushed pineapple over the ham. Arrange a layer of ham over fruit. Put remaining pineapple around edge of dish and the apricot halves in the center. Cover and bake at 375° F. for 45 minutes. Remove cover and bake an extra 10 minutes.

Ham and Sauce

2 c. diced cooked ham	1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/3 c. raisins	1/4 tsp. cloves
2 c. water	1/4 tsp. allspice
2/3 c. brown sugar	2 T. vinegar
2 T. cornstarch	Rice

Cook rice as directed on package. Simmer raisins in water for 5 minutes. Combine cornstarch and spices. Add to raisins. Bring to boil. Add ham and vinegar. Simmer 10 minutes. Serve on hot cooked rice.

Ham Shank and Beans

1 ham shank	1 onion
Water	1/4 c. molasses
2 c. navy beans	2 tsp. dry mustard
1/4 c. chili sauce	

Cover ham shank with water. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer 2 1/2 hours or until ham drops from bone. Cover beans with warm water. Soak 2 1/2 hours. Drain. Cover with ham broth and boil 10 minutes. Add chili sauce or catsup, diced ham and sliced onion. Mix molasses and mustard with ham broth. Add to beans until well covered. Simmer slowly or bake in slow oven 325° F. for 1 hour.

Red-topped Ham Loaf

1 lb. ground ham	1/2 tsp. dry mustard
1/3 c. fine bread crumbs	2 eggs
1/4 c. chopped onion	1 c. cranberry sauce
2 T. green pepper	Allspice
	Cloves

Combine chopped or ground ham, finely chopped green pepper and onion.



Combine ham leftovers with fruit for a casserole meal.

Beat eggs slightly, mix in mustard. Add to ham mixture. Crush jelled cranberry sauce with fork. Mix with dash of allspice and cloves. Cover bottom of 1-qt. casserole with cranberry sauce. Add ham mixture. Bake in moderate 350° F. oven for 50 to 55 minutes. Unmold and serve upside down while still hot.

Cranberry Sauce: Boil 2 c. sugar with 1 c. water uncovered for 5 minutes. Add 1 lb. (4 c.) cranberries and cook 5 minutes more or just until skins break. Makes 2 cups.

California Casserole

3-4 c. cooked rice	1 can cream of chicken soup
2 c. ground ham	
2-3 oranges	

Put 1-inch layer of cooked rice in individual casseroles. Cover with ground cooked ham. Peel and slice oranges thinly. Cover ham with orange slices. Pour cream of chicken soup, undiluted, over this. Sprinkle cheese on top. Bake at 350° F. for 15 minutes.

Ham with Dressing

4 c. soft bread crumbs	2 slices ham, 1/2-inch thick
1/2 c. raisins	1/4 c. melted butter
1/4 c. brown sugar	30 whole cloves
1 tsp. ground mustard	9 slices pineapple

Mix bread crumbs, raisins, sugar and mustard together. Pour butter evenly over dressing mixture. Place 1 slice of ham in 9 by 12 cake dish, or oval baking dish. Spread dressing lightly over slice. Top with second slice of ham. Stick cloves in the fat around edge of ham slice. Cut 1 pineapple slice into wedges to decorate top of ham. Place 2 pineapple slices one on top of other in each corner of dish. Bake at 325° F. for 1 hour. Serves 6 to 8.

Potted Ham

1 c. minced cooked ham	1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper
1/2 tsp. dry mustard	1/4 tsp. mace

Put ham through food chopper. Beat with a wooden spoon until smooth; season with cayenne, mace and mustard. Place in 2 custard cups. Bake in 350° F. oven for 1/2 hour. Pack into sterile jar. Cover with melted paraffin. Makes a delicious sandwich spread.

Ham Pancakes

1 c. minced cooked ham	2 c. pancake mix
	2 c. milk

Measure pancake mix into bowl. Fold in minced ham. Add milk; beat until smooth. Bake on hot greased griddle until bubbles form on top side of cakes. Turn and brown. Serve with cream sauce or cream of mushroom or celery soup.

Macaroni Varieties

By knowing the various types, best methods of cooking and serving, the housewife gains many ideas for a main meal dish, a quick snack or a tasty treat for a party or a tea

by MIRIAM GORDON

THE magic of macaroni products lies in their almost unlimited combination with all kinds of foods. They have eye appeal, taste appeal and are welcomed by those who live on an economical budget. Just as flour is the basic material for cakes, cookies, breads, so macaroni products can be the basis for a number of main dishes featuring combinations with meat, eggs, cheese, milk, vegetables and fowl. They are an excellent means of turning leftovers into tasty treats. They are equally valuable in "stretching" scarce or expensive foods.

What are macaroni products? In some circles they are known as the "pasta" of Italy. Actually they are made from a special flour of high gluten content such as durum wheat. Of all the products, long macaroni is the largest and vermicelli, the smallest in size. Macaroni comes in unbroken lengths 10 to 12 inches long or in elbows, shells and fluted ribbons. Noodles usually have egg added to the paste which makes them yellow in color. The label on the package distinguishes the egg noodles from those which are artificially colored. Spaghetti is long, thin and white as is vermicelli.

One of the reasons the Italians can eat spaghetti daily, and never tire of it, is the variety of sauces they pour over their "pasta." One day it can be a meat sauce, the next, a vegetable one, another day, cheese or again a tantalizing fish sauce. We, too, can combine these foods with macaroni products and come up with countless tasty variations that make for superb eating.

The following is a guide for purchasing and cooking macaroni products.

	Amount	Raw	Cooked
Spaghetti	1/2 lb.	2 c.	4 c.
Broken			
Macaroni	1/2 lb.	2 c.	4 c.
Noodles	1/2 lb.	2 c.	2 1/2 c.

Macaroni, spaghetti and noodles are interchangeable in most recipes.

Salads are best if elbow or shell macaroni is used. Spaghetti is generally preferred with sauces.

Type of Product	Ready to Serve (minutes)	Use in Recipe with Additional Cooking (minutes)
Spaghetti	15	10
Vermicelli	10	7
Long macaroni	15	10
Elbow macaroni	12	10
Macaroni shells	12	10
Noodles (fine)	7	4
Noodles (broad)	12	9

Most packages carry complete directions for cooking, failing this, however, follow these few simple rules. For 1/2 lb. uncooked, boil two quarts of water until the rapid boil stage is reached. Season with two teaspoons of salt, drop in macaroni, spaghetti or noodles slowly so that the "boil" of the water is maintained. Do not cover. Maintain rapid boil throughout cooking time. Loosen occasionally with a fork to prevent sticking. Pour in a colander to drain. Blanch with hot water if it is to be used at once or blanch with cold water to chill. Plunging in cold water tends to "separate" the pieces and remove some of the starchiness in flavor.

Macaroni Puff

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 c. cooked macaroni | 1 T. minced onion |
| 1/2 c. soft bread crumbs | 1 c. grated cheese |
| 4 T. melted butter | 1 1/2 c. hot milk |
| 3 T. chopped pimento | 2 eggs |
| 3 T. chopped green pepper | 1 1/2 tsp. salt |
| | 1/2 tsp. dry mustard |
| | 1/8 tsp. pepper |

Cook broken macaroni in boiling salted water until tender. Drain and rinse in hot water. Add bread crumbs, melted butter, cheese, onion, green pepper and pimento. Season with salt, pepper and dry mustard. Scald milk in double boiler, add well beaten egg yolks and cook for 2 minutes. Pour this over the macaroni mixture and mix well. Fold in the egg whites which have been beaten very stiff and turn into buttered casserole. Set in

Only you and your Magic can make this blissful Mocha Pudding

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MAGIC MOCHA PUDDING (Self-sauced with Chocolate)

- 3 ounces (3 squares) unsweetened chocolate
- 1 1/2 tbsps. corn starch
- 2 cups fine granulated sugar
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 1/2 cups once-sifted cake flour
- 2 1/2 tps. Magic Baking Powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 tps. powdered instant coffee
- 6 tbsps. butter or margarine
- 1 egg, well-beaten
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Melt the chocolate in the top of double boiler. Combine the corn starch and 1 1/2 cups of the sugar and stir into melted chocolate. Stir in water. Cook over low direct heat, stirring constantly, until sauce comes to the boil; cover and keep hot over boiling water until needed.

Grease a 6-cup casserole. Preheat oven to 350° (moderate).

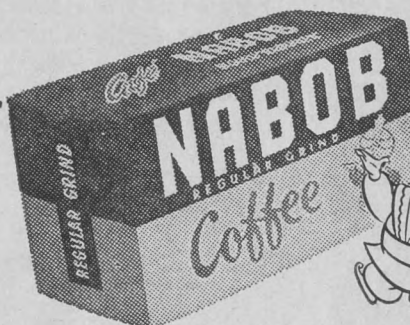
Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and instant coffee together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in remaining 1/2 cup sugar. Add well-beaten egg, part at a time, beating well after each addition. Measure milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a third at a time, alternating with two additions of milk and vanilla and combining lightly after each addition. Turn batter into prepared casserole. Pour 2 cups of hot chocolate sauce over batter. (Keep remaining sauce over hot water to serve with pudding.) Bake pudding in preheated oven about 50 minutes. Pass remaining hot sauce.



Attractive individual servings of noodles with bacon and cheese sauce.

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a pan containing 1 inch of hot water. Bake at 350° F. for 45-50 minutes. Serves 4.

Sea Shell Fruit Salad

For an afternoon or evening party the following is well suited:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1½ c. shell macaroni | 1 c. diced apples |
| 1 c. canned fruit cocktail, drained | ½ c. coarsely chopped walnuts |
| 1 c. chopped celery | 1 c. salad dressing |

Cook shell macaroni in boiling salted water 12-15 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water until chilled. Combine fruit cocktail with apples, celery, nuts. Add macaroni. Mix together lightly. Chill in refrigerator. Add dressing and serve on lettuce leaves. Diced, canned pineapple and orange sections may be substituted for fruit cocktail. Serves 6.

Spaghetti Casserole

An idea for an "after-event" supper dish to take to a church or other social gathering to serve a fairly large group of people is the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 c. spaghetti | 2 T. chopped fresh or dried parsley |
| ½ lb. bacon, diced | 1 5-oz. tin tomato paste |
| 3 onions, sliced | ½ lb. sharp cheddar cheese |
| 1 clove garlic, finely chopped | 2 tsp. salt |
| 1½ lbs. ground beef | 1 tsp. black pepper |
| 2 green peppers, chopped | |
| 2½ c. tomatoes | |

Cook spaghetti in boiling salted water until tender. Drain. Dice bacon and fry until brown, then lift out of the pan. Fry onions and garlic until lightly browned. Remove from pan. Add beef,

brown it, then cook slowly for a few minutes. Add tomato paste, onions, garlic, bacon, and canned tomatoes. In a large, greased casserole put a layer of the cooked spaghetti, add a layer of the meat and tomato mixture. Season with salt and pepper. Grate cheese and add a layer. Continue adding spaghetti, meat and cheese in layers ending with a thick layer of spaghetti topped with grated cheese. Bake at 300° F. for 2 hours. Yield: 12 servings.

Creamed Eggs and Macaroni

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 hard cooked eggs | 1¼ c. medium white sauce |
| 1 c. cooked macaroni | 1 T. butter |
| ½ c. grated cheese | ¾ tsp. salt |
| ¾ c. bread crumbs | ½ tsp. pepper |

Make white sauce. Add cheese to white sauce. Cut hard cooked eggs in slices. Add macaroni, eggs and seasonings to the sauce. Pour into buttered baking dish. Melt butter and add crumbs. Sprinkle buttered crumbs over macaroni. Bake at 350° F. for 30 minutes until crumbs are browned and macaroni bubbly.

Barbecued Noodles with Sausage

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1½ c. noodles | 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce |
| 2 T. sugar | ½ c. tomatoes |
| ½ tsp. salt | ½ c. sliced celery |
| ½ tsp. pepper | 1 medium onion, peeled and sliced |
| ¼ tsp. chili powder | 1 lb. sausages |
| ½ tsp. dry mustard | |
| ¼ c. vinegar | |
| 1 c. water | |

Cook noodles in boiling salted water until tender. Drain and rinse. Combine sugar, salt, pepper, chili powder and mustard in a saucepan. Blend in the vinegar, water and Worcestershire sauce. Add the tomatoes, celery and onion. Cover and simmer until the vegetables are tender, about 20 minutes. Fry the sausages until brown. Arrange half of the sausages in a casserole. Add cooked noodles to tomato sauce and pour into casserole. Arrange remaining sausages on top. Cover and bake at 350° F. for 15 minutes; uncover and bake for 15 minutes longer. Serves 6.

Pork Chops with Spaghetti

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 6 pork chops | 1 tin tomato soup |
| 1½ c. cut spaghetti | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1 onion, minced | ½ tsp. pepper |
| | ½ c. grated cheese |

Cook spaghetti in-boiling, salted water. Drain. Wipe the chops and brown in hot fat. Lift them out and cook the onion in the drippings until golden. Add cooked spaghetti; season with salt and pepper. Dilute the tomato soup with an equal quantity of water and pour over the spaghetti. Place the chops on top. Cover and simmer gently for 1 hour. Add more water, if necessary, to prevent from sticking, stir occasionally. Before serving sprinkle cheese over top, allow to melt.

Sausage Mushroom Sauce

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ½ lb. sausage meat | ½ tsp. nutmeg |
| 1 T. flour | ½ c. milk |
| ¼ tsp. salt | 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce |
| ½ tsp. pepper | ½ tsp. diced parsley |
| 1 10-oz. tin cream mushroom soup | |

Brown sausage meat in frying pan. Remove to ovenproof dish and keep hot. Drain off all fat but 2 tablespoons. Add flour with salt, pepper and nutmeg. Blend until smooth. Add mushroom soup, milk. Cook for 3 minutes. Pour over cooked macaroni, spaghetti or noodles. Serves 6.

Bacon Cheese Sauce

A quick easy sauce to pour over cooked noodles or macaroni.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 pieces bacon, diced | 1 can condensed asparagus soup |
| ½ c. grated cheddar cheese | ½ tsp. salt |
| ¾ c. milk | ½ tsp. pepper |

Add milk to the condensed soup, stir and heat until smooth. Cook bacon until crisp—add to heated soup—add grated cheese and stir until melted. Arrange hot cooked noodles in a vegetable dish or individual casseroles—pour sauce over it. Garnish with parsley.

Lovely Marianne Pattern OFFERED EXCLUSIVELY BY Robin Hood

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Soap Sculpture

by EFFIE BUTLER

CHILDREN who have never had a real creative thrill may find a means of expression in soap sculpture. Many children, and adults, find that working in three dimensions . . . that is in the round . . . is more satisfying than two-dimensional drawing and painting. Certainly, there are few activities which bring out unexpected talent so surprisingly as soap carving.

A child generally has a short interest span, therefore a medium in which he can achieve results quickly is desirable. The familiarity of a bar of soap does away with the timidity which most children have for a new medium. Another reason why soap carving is particularly adapted for creative art experiences for young children, or children who are confined to bed following an illness, is the simplicity of tools required.

If you can still find a bar of ordinary laundry soap in your cupboard . . . in this day of soap flakes and detergents . . . you have most of the equipment required. The paring or kitchen knife does not have to be razor-sharp to obtain the best results. The only other tool really necessary is an orangewood stick or some toothpicks. There is no "mess" and no waste if the carving is done on a tray, shallow pan, or pie tin.

Soap as a material encourages an interest in bold, simple and suggestive

design rather than intricate detail. The amateur sculptor is usually content when he realizes an over-all design and is not tempted to overwork his piece. This is a valuable lesson for his future development in the art.

The subject can be and often is suggested by the shape and quality of the block of soap. It is wise to spend a time feeling its texture and form before deciding on the subject to be carved. Choose something that suggests a solid mass without too many projections which might be difficult to portray. Animals are favorite models. Rabbits or squirrels in a crouching pose are especially suitable as this simplifies the difficulty of carving legs and feet.

It isn't possible to give any set rules of procedure. Some children may start to carve directly as soon as the lettering and raised edges of the soap cake have been gently removed with a knife. Others may use the point of the orangewood stick to score a rough outline on all sides of the soap, of the model desired. A simple drawing on rather thin paper the size of the soap bar may help some make a beginning.

The next step will be to make the first rough cuts in the soap outlining the sketch. Holding the cake in your left hand, cut away the excess soap leaving about a quarter-inch margin outside the scored or pencilled sketch.

After these first cuts, continue to define the outline with a gentle paring action as if peeling an apple. Do not cut into the guide lines as these will allow for finer carving in the finishing. Soap breaks off easily if too deep a cut is made at a time. It is much safer to cut too little than too much.

The real carving of the model begins after the model has been gone over carefully to insure it has good proportions on all sides. The model should be done as a whole and gradually. For instance, there should be no attempt to complete the head before working on the other parts. When the piece is finished all rough edges can be gently smoothed with the edge of the knife. The fine details can be marked in with the tip of the knife blade.

After completing the carving, permit the model to dry for at least two days. By studying it often you may see where finer highlights may be obtained by polishing, first with soft tissue and then by the most sensitive of all tools, the artist's finger and thumb. It is in this final chiselling and polishing that a child's ability will be displayed. Some children will be more successful with low relief than with sculpture in the round.

If at the end of a tedious day indoors or a-bed, the young carver tires of his craft, nothing is lost. Nothing is wasted. The shavings, the bits and pieces can be dissolved in next Monday's wash! How satisfying. Few of us can have the pleasure of seeing our failures washed away.

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Measure into a large bowl

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- 2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

- 2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well, stir in

- 1 1/4 cups lukewarm water
- 3 teaspoons salt

Stir in

- 4 cups once-sifted bread flour

and beat until batter is smooth and very elastic.

Cream in a large bowl

- 3/4 cup butter or margarine

Gradually blend in

- 3/4 cup fine granulated sugar

Gradually beat in

- 3 well-beaten eggs

Add to yeast mixture, about a third at a time, beating well after each addition.

Mix in

- 3 cups more once-sifted bread flour

Divide soft dough into 3 bowls to finish as three specialties.



1. Butterscotch Nut Buns Melt 3 tablespoons butter or margarine in 8-inch square pan; brush sides of pan with fat; mix in 1 tablespoon corn syrup, 1/2 cup lightly-packed brown sugar and 1/2 cup broken walnuts or pecans. Combine in a shallow bowl 1/2 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon cinnamon and 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg. Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough, coat with cinnamon mixture and place in pan; sprinkle with any remaining spiced sugar. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.

2. Cheese Pull-Aparts Line bottom of

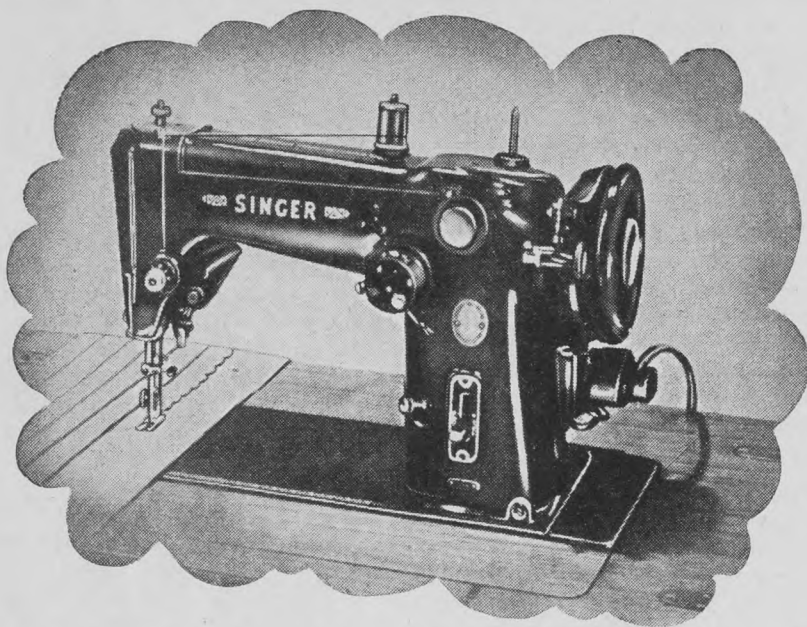
a greased 8-inch square pan with greased waxed paper. Cut half of dough into rounded spoonfuls; place in pan; sprinkle with 2 cups shredded cheese. Spoon remaining half of dough on top; grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.

3. Seed Buns Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough and drop into greased muffin pans—each spoonful should about half fill a pan. Brush with melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with poppy seeds. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 20 to 25 minutes.

• *Make her Christmas dream come true!* •

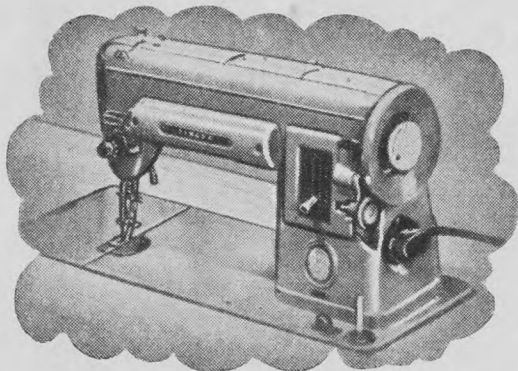


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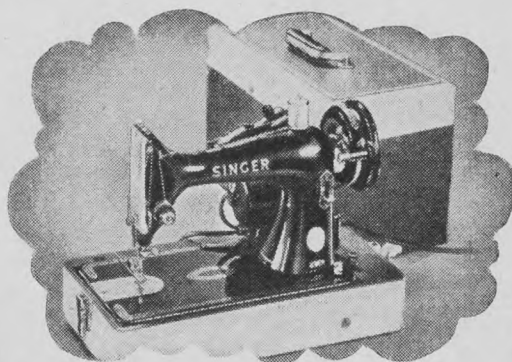


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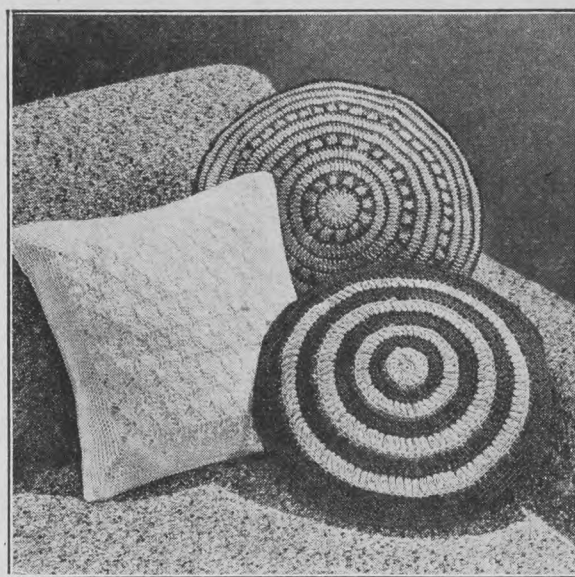
Gifts to Make

*Novel and attractive items for the needlewoman who
likes to make some of her Christmas gifts*

by ANNA LOREE

Design No. C-S-428

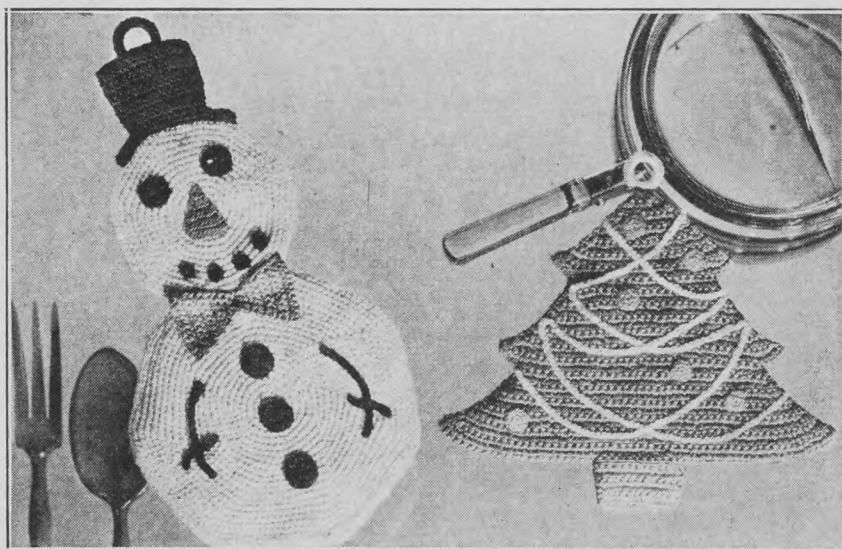
Add a touch of brightness to your living room or den with decorative pillows. All three pillows shown require steel crochet hook No. 2/0. Square pillow requires foam rubber form 14 inches square and 6 balls mercerized cotton. Plain circular design requires foam rubber form 15 inches in diameter and 3 balls of first choice color and 2 balls of second choice color. Patterned circular design is made from 4 balls of first choice color and 3 balls of second choice color and covers a form 15 inches in diameter. Design No. C-S-428. Price 10 cents.



Design No. S-E-303

A good-sized stuffed elephant for a small child to cuddle is always a happy gift choice. The body consists of two pieces and a band preferably hand-sewn; legs, feet, trunk and ears may be machine-stitched. One-third yard

of percale, gingham, chintz or any printed or plain cotton fabric left over from other sewing may be used. Four buttons to fasten legs and two small buttons for eyes are needed as well. Cotton batting or kapok is used for stuffing. Design No. S-E-303. Price 10 cents.



Design No. C-S-371

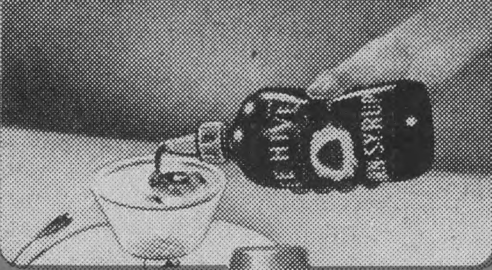
A jolly white snowman with black hat and bright red bow tie and a gaily trimmed dark green Christmas tree make a delightful pair to express your Merry Christmas wish. Crochet these novelty potholders for friends or Christmas brides. Snowman materials: 2 balls of white, 1 ball black, a few

yards red all No. 12 Cronita. Steel crochet hooks Nos. 4 and 7, also 4 snap fasteners and a bone ring for hanging. Christmas tree materials: 2 balls No. 48 hunter's green, 1 ball No. 126 Spanish red, a few yards of No. 43 dark yellow, steel crochet hook No. 4 and a bone ring. Design No. C-S-371. Price 10 cents.

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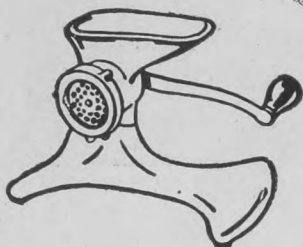
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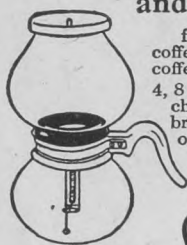
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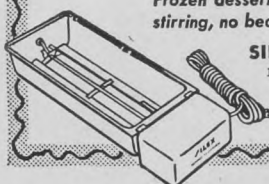


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The Countrywoman

Continued from page 55

on research has increased between 1935 and 1952 (expressed in dollars) nearly 1,900 per cent. It has been noted by our National Resources Committee that 'A thorough study of a problem in a good library prior to and during the prosecution of research on it will save on the average ten per cent of the total cost in time and money.'

The third major trend noted by the speaker "is a concept embraced in that not very lovely word: 'automation' — this, according to Peter Drucker in the April issue of Harper's Magazine: represents . . . a change as great as Henry Ford ushered in with the first mass-production plant 50 years ago. Automation is the technological revolution of the second half of the 20th century . . . Its impact may be equally great and may come faster."

"The great libraries of the old world were primarily centers for preserving knowledge. Only very learned men and scholars were permitted to use them and then primarily for study that would lead to the extending of knowledge itself. As universities spread, libraries spread, so more scholars could be trained to carry on this great work . . . the motivating objective for each of these refinements was the same—to make it possible for the student of a particular subject to locate all the printed or manuscript material on that subject."—So came systems of classifications, catalogues and bibliographies, etc.

"Then, a little more than a century ago, on this continent, a new kind of library was established. Its purpose was not to aid in pushing back the frontiers of knowledge but to spread existing knowledge to thousands of people. That was the public library which is widely known throughout the English-speaking world and the Scandinavian countries . . . The users of these libraries are concerned with broadening their personal interests, understanding things about them, developing themselves culturally and even just reading for pleasure and amusement."

As libraries moved out from cloisters, books, old documents and important records, ceased to be "precious pieces," trusted only to the few. Book circulation figures alone are not an adequate nor fair measure today.

"Nowhere does it recognize," said Mr. Ulveling "the hours of time that go into providing programs designed to arouse new interests in people through library publications, lectures and group meetings of various kinds. Nor does it give due recognition to some of the educational experiences provided for people through Great Books and other types of discussions, reading and study clubs, etc. . . . For example, the educational impact of libraries exerted through community leaders—clergymen, newspaper writers, radio men, labor, industrial and government officials—by statistical records may appear to be of less significance than the service rendered to one voracious reader of novels.

Of the possible effect of TV the speaker noted: "Our first attempts will, I am sure, be far different from those in use ten years from now. We believe that TV far from being a competitor

as many librarians now view it, may become one of our greatest allies. Think of it—for the first time we will be able to show our choicest items, not to only the few who look through the glass of a display case, but to hundreds of thousands. I realized this when I watched Mary Martha play Peter Pan on TV. The next day I read that that delightful play was seen by more people, the night before, than had seen it through all the years, of all its runs in England and the U.S." V

Gift Ideas

Continued from page 56

Margaret, the daughter of an art instructor, came naturally by her interest in good pictures. She watched continually for reprints of the old masters in the current magazines. Her hobby led her into books about these famous artists and their canvases. Today she can hold her own in an intelligent discussion of method, lighting, composition and detail.

About ten years ago Mrs. Waterman made a small lump of molding clay for her son out of household material. She mixed one cup of flour, one cup of salt, one tablespoon of alum, and enough water to hold it together. This was divided into thirds and vegetable coloring added to make one red, one yellow and the other green. These sections were shaped into rolls and wrapped in a small piece of dampened cloth. The gift was then boxed and covered with gay Christmas paper.

It proved to be her son's most exciting present that year. Albert was delighted with the clay and he spent many hours getting acquainted with its possibilities. The next year he went into wood carving. Now, although he is a full-time doctor, his hobby is working with marble. Locally, his statues are well known. More than once he has won cash prizes and other honors. The interest begun with homemade clay led into a creative craft. With another it may lead to a chosen vocation or a new business enterprise.

THERE are other inexpensive mediums for the youthful hobbyist to work with—raffia, soap and leather to name a few. Of these soap carving is the most economical because the shavings can be used in the washing machine after the sculptor has carved on his object.

At a recent hobby show one lady showed her group of foreign dolls. She had made each one—molding their bodies and faces, adding the hair, clothes and hand-made shoes. Each was dressed in the fashion of its country. There was a saucy Dutch girl, a sturdy Highlander, a delicate French lady, and many, many more.

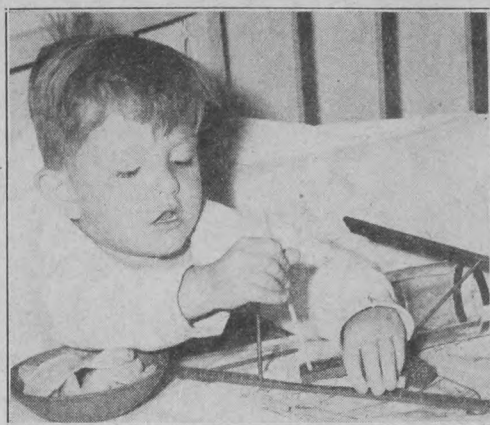
Photography makes a fine hobby. A start can be made with camera, rolls of film, an album or a booklet of instructions. If the recipient's interest grows, a light meter might prove handy, or a subscription to a trade journal in this field. Many a hobbyist-photographer has gone from amateur standing to professional status.

As you think about the right gift for the right person almost anything goes—knitting, woodcraft, model airplanes, chemistry, leather working, crocheting and hundreds of other fascinating and absorbing leisure-time pursuits. Your choice could bring a lifetime of pleasure when you give a hobby gift at Christmas. V

Counterpane Play-Table

FEW children escape at least a short spell in bed, especially during the wet and chilly months. Staying in bed can be tedious but it may be made interesting and even enjoyable if a child has some bed-time occupation. Let's give some thought to quiet activities which may go on in the "pleasant land of Counterpane."

If the child is not too ill to have toys or other play materials, mother can provide a roomy play-table, using a folding card-table. Two legs of the table are pulled down and set on the floor, close to the bed. The other two are left folded and the table placed across the bed, with a plump pillow or rolled blanket under it on the other side. If the table has a washable top,



A busy child is usually a happy child.

it will be an easy matter to wipe it clean of spills or other mess. Otherwise use a square of oilcloth or plastic to spread over its surface and thumb-

tack along the edges. Few youngsters can stay in one position for any length of time. The table in position slightly higher than his body, permits the little wiggler to twist and turn as much as he wants to, without upsetting his play materials.

On this yard-square table little Joe or Betty can color drawings, arrange paper dolls or blocks, run a toy truck or do a number of interesting things. It is important that an ailing child be kept in a happy state of mind so that he will not rebel at confinement. Providing interesting occupation will make him more willing to stay put, when he is coming down with a case of "sniffles" or a sore throat. Rest and quiet may go far toward warding off complications, or illness of a more serious nature. Then too, if the young person has something interesting and enjoyable to do, he has less time to think about himself and is less likely to be demanding on other people's time.—Louise Price Bell.

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P-383

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Patterns in Holiday Mood



No. 4471—Mother or teen-age daughter would be very pleased with this attractive duster, and it's easy to sew. Front-buttoning, it may be worn belted or loose. Also included, a shorter version with three-quarter length sleeve and mandarin collar. A duster coat serves as a comfortable summer-weight housecoat. In sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48. Size 20 requires $5\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1025—The man of the house will appreciate a comfortable sports shirt. How about making it in his favorite tartan or check? In the same pattern, a short-sleeved style that is suitable for lightweight fabrics. Sizes small (14-14 $\frac{1}{2}$), medium (15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$), large (16-16 $\frac{1}{2}$) and extra large (17-17 $\frac{1}{2}$). Large size requires $3\frac{1}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4058—It will be a happy Christmas morning for the little boy or girl who wears this robe. There's added fun in having a matching robe for a favorite doll. Robe features raglan sleeves and roll collar, may be buttoned, or simply tied at the waist. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. For size 3 you will need 3 yards 35-inch material, with nap. This allows for the doll's robe, too. Price 35 cents.

No. 4195—This smart hat and handbag are suitable gifts for a young lady. The set can be made in any of a wide choice of fabrics; velvet, tweed or the popular tartans. Also included in the pattern are a dicky and three collars. Hat is one headsize, for all fittings. Set shown requires $1\frac{1}{8}$ yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

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How We Sold Our Country Home

It all goes to show — well, maybe, that sometimes we're lucky in spite of ourselves

by IRENE E. GRANT

"WE'VE just got to do something, Dave; I'll die if we have to leave here." "It'd sure be heck to get stuck in the city, but it's no use talking to Dad. He insists that we must have an education, no matter what."

Those were my twin brothers talking. They were both burned brown from being outdoors all the time, and both strong and muscular from swimming and rowing and working on our chicken farm. They looked alike, ex-

cept for their hair; Dave's waved back off his face, but John's was perfectly straight, and no matter how hard he brushed it back, it always fell down over his left eye. They were picking the early apples and had sent me to the house for some cookies. When I returned they were sitting on the grass talking rather loudly. "Pipe down, you two. Dad'll hear you," I said.

"Listen, Mandy, you got to help us," said John.

"You don't want to live in any dusty old city, do you huh? And not have boats, nor anything?" added Dave. I looked from the orchard to the sandy beach, the blue sea and back to the low, rambling house covered with vines, and shook my head. I loved the island just as much as the boys did, but I knew their tricky ways and was afraid that they would get me into trouble if I joined them.

The twins were nearly 14 that summer, and I was 12. Mother and Dad said we'd have to move to where we could go to high school. Then there was Nellie, the baby; she was five going on six, but not big and strong like the rest of us. Mother said she was too small to walk those long three miles to school, like we did. The only thing for it was to go to the city to live; and the only way we could do that was to sell the farm, because we had no money. With the eggs and fruit and the little carpentering Dad did, we just managed to make ends meet. Of course we grew our own vegetables, and we kept a cow; and we could catch a fish whenever we wanted.

It was a good life, and if there had just been another girl my age living near, it would have been perfect. In summer we swam every day and built bonfires of driftwood in the evening. On windy days we sailed our little boats. In winter we had fun skating, and sometimes there was snow; then we whizzed down the hill on our toboggans. Then, in the springtime, we had fluffy little chicks and dear little ducks. I thought of all this before I asked the boys, "What are you planning?"

John, who was usually the leader, answered, "I don't know exactly, but I'm sure not going to show the place off to Mr. Thingabob when he comes."

"Mr. who?"

"What-cha-m-call-im? The man Dad is trying to sell our farm to. He has some idea of making a summer resort out of it. I can tell him we have cold winds in July. What else? Any ideas, Dave?"

Dad planned to be home when the man came, but he was called away suddenly—something about a job in the city. In fact, he stepped on the C.P.R. boat just after our visitor stepped off it, and had time to say scarcely more than hello. The boys were delighted, because it gave them a better chance to do their dirty work. I don't know what they said to him on the road around from the wharf, because I had to stay home and help Mother get dinner ready, but he didn't look very happy when he arrived.

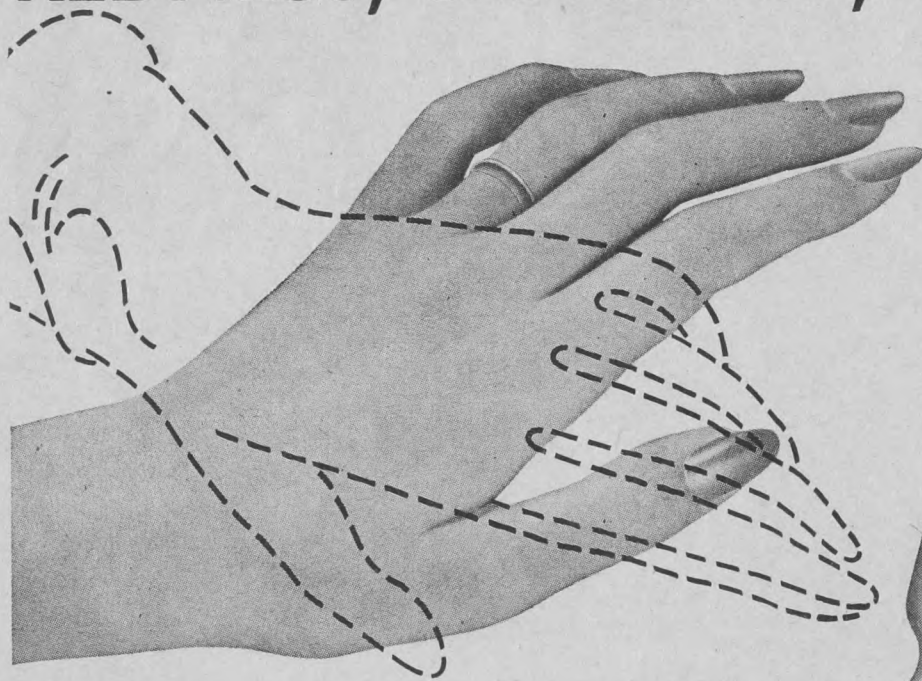
Mother had made apple pies, and we served green peas and buttered beets with the roast beef. She told Mr. Bowerman that one of the things she liked about living on the farm was the fact that we had such quantities of lovely fresh fruit and vegetables.

Mr. Bowerman looked rather strangely at John before he said, "H'mm, I was under the impression that the soil was very poor here."

Dave speared a large piece of beet on his fork and began to wave it around in the air. "David, cut that beet," said Mom.

"It's all right, Mum, it'll go in. See," and he crammed it into his mouth. Before Mother could say anything, John reached over and gave the cat,

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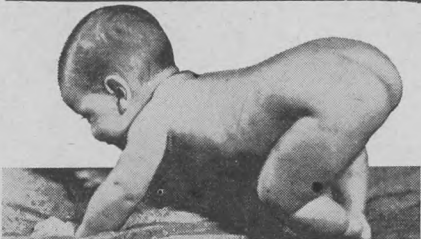
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who was sitting near, a piece of meat off his plate. Mother was getting cross.

"John, next time you have a tidbit for the cat, keep it on your plate until after dinner." The pet by this time was standing beside John's chair, reaching up with her front paws and meowing for more. "See," continued Mother, "you are teaching her bad habits."

"It wasn't a tidbit, Mom, it was a piece of gristle," said John. Then Dave added:

"That wasn't a cow we butchered; it was a bull, remember?" This time Mother's face got red. To relieve the situation, John stretched his long legs under the table and pulled Babe's chair toward him until her chin was resting on the edge of the table. She laughed so loud that everyone looked at her to see what all the fun was. It was a good thing Dad wasn't home. He would have sent the boys away without their pie, but Mother was more lenient.

AFTER dinner Mom and Mr. Bowerman had a long talk, then she told the boys to show him around the place, take him up the knoll to see the view and then down along the beach. I started to follow along, but Mom called me back saying, "You pick a bowl of raspberries for supper, Mandy."

I was still in the berry patch when they came back from the tour of barn and chicken houses, and I heard the man say, "If you fellows want to go swimming now, I can mosey along by myself."

"No thanks," said John, "it's too cold for swimming when the sun isn't shining." What a whopper; our boys hadn't missed a day's swim since May. They even went swimming in the rain. I wonder what rubbish they filled him with on the woodsy trail on the knoll?

When Mother sent me to call the boys to do their chores, they had Mr. Bowerman out in a rowboat, fishing. I was sure they were too near the shore to catch anything, and I was right; there wasn't a fish in the boat. I remember thinking that he sure was a city sucker.

He spoke kindly to me, "Why did you call your brothers, Mandy?"

"They have to do the chores. John milks the cow and feeds the calf and Dave looks after the chickens and ducks. It's a lot more fun than washing dishes and dusting, but they won't ever trade with me." He chuckled at that before he turned to Babe who had trailed down to the beach with me and asked:

"And what are your chores, little one?" She said:

"I set the table and I unset the table, and I wash my feet." It didn't sound very funny to me, but Mr. Bowerman roared with laughter. Then he asked:

"How long before supper, Mandy?" "About an hour, maybe a little more," I said.

"H'mm, in that case I think I'll do a bit more fishing. Think it would be wise to go round the point?" He called to John, who had started toward the barn.

"Sure, darn good fishing ground around the point," said John.

Supper was all ready when the boys came in with the milk and eggs.

"Where is Mr. Bowerman?" asked Mother.

"Oh, he went fishing around the point."

"You shouldn't have let him go alone, boys. You know the current is strong out there and the tide will have turned by now. Mercy, I don't know what you were thinking of. Hurry now, take the other boat and go help him." I slipped out the front door before Mom could think of something for me to do, and ran down on the point to watch.

A COUPLE of hundred yards off the point there was a tiny island. The water rushed through this gap pretty fast. Mr. Bowerman was out near the middle and although he was rowing as hard as he could he wasn't making one bit of headway against the tide. It didn't take the boys more than five minutes to reach him from our beach, but it took a lot longer to bring him back. They made the bow of his boat fast to the stern of theirs, then yelling at the man to head in toward the shore to catch the eddy, they both rowed with all their might. Very slowly at first and faster when they got closer to shore, they pulled the other boat. Mr. Bowerman wasn't much help, because he was all worn out by the time Dave and John reached him. When they pulled the boats up on the sand he said, "Well you saved my life, boys. I'm very, very grateful."

"We should have warned you," said Dave.

"No, you had no way of knowing that my boating and fishing experiences had been confined to lakes where there are no tides. You see, I have just recently come from the interior. In fact, I saw your father's advertisement about this place the day I arrived in Vancouver." John and Dave looked at each other very sheepishly, and didn't say anything. I said:

"You better hurry up. Supper is getting cold."

At supper, Mr. Bowerman announced: "I like your place very much and I think I'll buy it for a summer resort." John's jaw dropped and Dave bent his head low over his plate. I just sat and stared at the man. He looked at the boys and said, "What's the matter, don't you want to go to the city to live?" They shook their heads hard. He continued, "Perhaps we can arrange for you to stay here." John opened his mouth wider than ever. Babe called out:

"Fly trap, Johnny!" Then everybody laughed.

Mom said, "You seem to understand boys, Mr. Bowerman."

"I should. I have one of my own, and also a daughter," he said, looking at me, "and I think they will get along fine with you people. In a big summer resort like I'm planning there will be lots of work to do, and we'll need boys to look after the boats and the



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garden and we'll have to get a couple more cows, and—"

"You mean for us all to stay here, Mr. Bowerman? Mom too?"

"Sure, we need her most of all, because she is such a good-cook."

"Three cheers for Mr. Bowerman," said John.

"How will we go to high school?" I asked. Mother, who had been smiling all the time answered that one.

"We'll have a teacher here," she said, "for the two families, and then if any of our guests have children they can join you in the classroom."

"What'll Dad say?" asked David.

"I'll remain until your father returns, and we'll work out the details," said Mr. Bowerman.

"I think that Dad will like the proposition," said Mother.

"Let's go for a swim, then build a big bonfire to celebrate," said John. Mr. Bowerman looked at him:

"Why John, I thought you decided it was too cold to swim today."

"Ah heck, I just didn't feel like swimming this afternoon," Mr. Bowerman smiled, and I saw a twinkle in his eye. ✓

Corn and Soybeans Move Eastward

Continued from page 12

Dave Croskery at Metcalfe. His major crop is 60 or 70 acres of potatoes, which he bags himself and sells to a chain grocery in Ottawa. Nevertheless, he has increased his corn acreage during the past four years, from five acres to 20. In three of those years his corn averaged 50 to 60 bushels per acre. Drought cut back his 1955 crop.

Dave has tried soybeans with equal success. He is adding beef cattle to his farm program and these two crops provide much of his feed. One reason that he likes them so much is that they can be seeded after the coarse grains are in the ground, and will not be ready for harvest until the coarse grains are already in the bin. This spreads out the season's work and eliminates the frantic rush that always accompanies a large acreage of a single crop.

Farming, however, yields few bonanzas. Further, if the clouds sometimes have silver linings it is because they also have darker sides, which make the silver worth mentioning. Similarly, the growing of corn

and soybeans is not without problems.

Both crops require more skill, if they are to be grown satisfactorily, than either of the old stand-bys, oats and barley. Soybeans are a legume, and therefore will add nitrogen to the soil. For best results, however, the seeds must be inoculated, before going into the ground, with a culture of the right kind of legume bacteria. Also, since soybeans do not respond well to a direct application of fertilizers, they must be grown on a fertile soil. The land must be clean before seeding, also, because this crop cannot compete effectively with weeds. Finally, heavy cultivation leaves the land ridgy, which makes it difficult in the fall to harvest the low-growing soybean crop.

Corn growing is a different proposition. In the first place, no crop responds better to fertilizer than corn. Growers like Garnet Ralph, who apply up to 500 pounds of fertilizer per acre, can get an 80-bushel crop. Pests, however, present serious problems in some areas; and more than one grower has watched clouds of blackbirds gobble up part of his crop before it could be harvested, or perhaps has discovered that hungry raccoons have helped themselves at his cost.

Harvesting presents some difficulties. Soybeans require harvesting by combine, rather than the grain separator that many farmers use for other crops. Corn requires a corn picker, but many growers are able to avoid this specialized type of equipment by hiring the work done on a custom basis.

Tom Dickison, who was one of the first to try both crops, still insists that he can boost yields considerably, by learning more about each crop. So convinced is he of this that he plans a trip to southwestern Ontario before another spring rolls around. "They have been growing these crops there much longer than we have," he says, "and I want to learn their methods."

Though admitting that there is some way yet to go before eastern Ontario can get the most from these comparatively new crops, Dickison has seen enough to prove that they can make money for farmers now. That, to him, is reason enough for his insistence that they are in his farm program to stay. That, too, is the reason why it is safe to bet that many more farmers will be growing corn and soybeans in eastern Ontario in the next few years. ✓



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They Are Beating A Tough Soil Problem

In the Special Areas of Alberta two brothers are winning out in the solution of a special soil problem

EDGAR and Cecil Wade have lived most of their lives in the droughty and sandy area south of Consort, Alberta. In the '30's, when they found their farm home vastly over-expanded and ready game for the temperamental climate and soil, they must have wondered if it wouldn't be better to give up and move. Most of the farm was lost. There was no money to pay for gas and repairs, let alone taxes, and less determined neighbors figured that anything could be better than the surrounding countryside.

Nevertheless, in the subsequent exodus that left so much of the land vacant and the district a part of the "Special Areas" of Alberta, the Wades stayed on. A deep curiosity about the peculiar climate had infected them, and they would devote their lives to learning a few of its secrets, and contributing in their own way to the knowledge that would some day make profitable farming in the district again a reality.

The soil was different even from apparently similar soil nearby. In the spring, when neighbors were seeding, water lay on the surface until it evaporated, apparently unable to drain through the subsoil. In summer, when neighbors north of the coulee above

land. The roots, it was believed, would penetrate the hard layer and allow percolation through the soil. Occasionally the land could be broken and cropped. Blade tillage, it seemed to Edgar, only increased the problem. It left trash on the surface, but aggravated the hardpan formation.

During the summers Edgar travelled through the prairies in his spare time, visiting farms, enquiring about farm problems and searching for answers to his own. The chisel cultivator caught his interest, and he went south to Texas, home of the Graham-Hoeme Company which was working with this implement.

Now a new program is emerging from this long-time study, which promises already a better use for the all-but-abandoned acres. Though the Wades once carried livestock, and are now without them while they bring overgrazed pasture back to production, they plan to again start their herd. Already Edgar has evidence that crops of grass and hay offer an alternative to leaving that land in weeds.

HERE is the program that has given him considerable success so far. He chisels the land in the fall to loosen it, while still leaving trash and straw on the surface. This helps to trap snow during winters for spring moisture, and enables the moisture to penetrate the soil. This operation he repeats in the spring, with a stroke or two, and seeds to grain. Wheat may be grown, or oats, or barley may be seeded as nurse crops for brome, alfalfa, and sweet clover mixtures. By using a rotation of about three years grass and three years grain, he has the land working every year, and is still successfully combatting that hard-pan soil problem.

Seeding through the heavy trash, which must always stay on the surface, has presented a major problem, and he is confident now that he has developed the answer to this. Three years ago, he completed the design of his own seeder attachment. It took the form of a shoe fitted to the shank of a heavy-duty cultivator. A seed box is attached to the top of the cultivator, with spouts running down to the opening in the top of the shoe.

Each fitting is designed to seed two rows. With the shoe attached to the shank, the cultivator blade is fitted on the front and runs under the surface trash, cutting into the moist soil and exposing a firm seed bed. The seed drops through the heel of the shoe and is covered with a moist slice of earth which has simply gone over the cultivator shovel.

The seeder eliminates the need of cutting through the trash cover, and provides moist earth rather than dry surface soil as a cover for the germinating seeds. It is designed to seed uniformly through each side of the shoe, whether on level ground, or on side hills.

Best of all, the Wades have tried it out for two years now and found that it does the job.



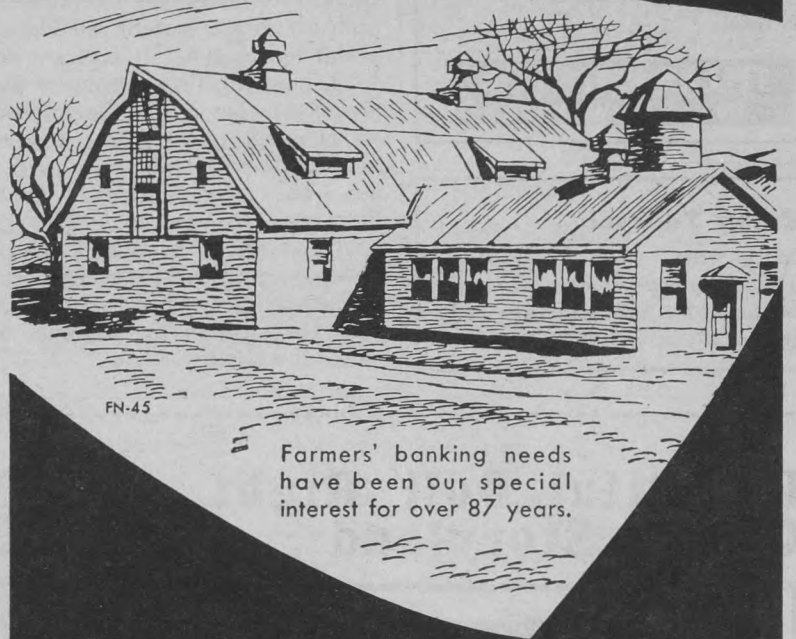
Edgar Wade holds some soil which he and Cecil have studied to advantage.

their farm were rejoicing at their own all-too-infrequent showers, too often the Wades waited in vain. Records were kept, which proved that their own farm was extremely dry. They learned that a band of Solonetz soil cut north through the province, and their farm was on it; hence the impervious layer under the surface which was responsible for poor drainage and other problems. Their task was to study this soil and try to understand it.

Special Areas regulations forced them to leave weeds growing on the

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Accent on Plowing

Continued from page 15

How fitting also that in 1955, at an international event requiring some 1,800 acres of land and involving some 60 acres of booths and displays for innumerable types of farm implements and equipment, the highlight of the week should be reserved for the championship plowman! In 1955, however, the walking plow no longer takes the top spot, though 47 horse-plowing competitors were on hand. The champion Canadian plowman works with a tractor outfit.

Plowing matches have been held in Ontario for more than a century; and probably in the eastern provinces for a still longer time. It was not until 1911, however, that a group of plowmen met in Toronto for the purpose of encouraging plowing matches and arousing more interest in good plowing. They organized the Ontario Plowmen's Association; and in 1913 held the first International Plowing Match, with 31 hand plow entries and one tractor. A few hundred spectators visited a farm in the Toronto area, where the event was held.

During the 42 years that have passed since then, the international plowman's event has expanded enormously. The farm machinery demonstrations, which soon became a part of it, are now major contributors to the success of the occasion. Acres and acres of impressive machines, the variety of which it is difficult for an individual to grasp, combine to provide opportunity, interest and entertainment for the many thousands of visitors to the event.

When preparations begin for an international plowing match and machinery demonstration, a veritable city of tents appears almost by magic. Spectators who attend during the week are able to see, perhaps for the first time, the newest in farm machinery. Educational exhibits acquaint them with advanced techniques in the growing of crops. Spectators this year could get ideas about how to grow bigger corn crops, fatten steers with less expense, and equip their buildings at lower cost, to save labor in feeding and handling.

The Association bars lotteries and games of chance of any type, from the grounds. The attention of visitors is

therefore concentrated solely on the plowing competitions, the educational exhibits and the commercial displays and demonstrations. Ample provision is made for eating on the grounds, and transportation is provided for spectators to move about over the large area which the competitions require. This year the event was combined with the fifth annual Western Ontario Cash Crop Day. On that day, therefore, visitors could study the operation of ponderous sugar beet harvesters actually working in the field. They could watch corn pickers circling fields of corn grown for grain, or forage harvesters biting into the tall stands of corn and chopping it up for immediate hauling to the silo. Soybean harvesters were available for work in fields of this valuable cash crop; and the harvesting of field beans was likewise under way. Sprinkler irrigation equipment was set up and in operation.

THE all-time record for attendance stands at 150,000 spectators. In previous years, entries in the big event have run to as many as 1,200. At Blytheswood, five miles northeast of Leamington, in Essex County, where the 1955 event was staged, no records were broken this year. In an area where an attendance of 200,000 had been talked about, around 60,000 materialized. A few classes were cancelled for lack of entries. The ground was in good shape and, for the most part, the weather was sunny and dry. None of these auspicious circumstances, however, was sufficient to draw enough of the farmers of southwestern Ontario away from the late tomato crop that was then being harvested, or the soybean crop, the harvest of which had been halted only temporarily. Perhaps, too, the fact that Essex County had held plowing matches only during the last three years, and that the big event must be visited at least once to be appreciated, were partly responsible. The tile-drainage, tree-planting, and farm safety demonstrations, as well as the welding contests, the big plowmen's dance one evening, the Annual Plowmen's Dinner, and the many other attractions of the 42nd International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration went unappreciated by all of those who stayed away for one reason or another. When land is high-priced and crops involve the use of much costly equipment, the costs of production are high and yields must be safeguarded

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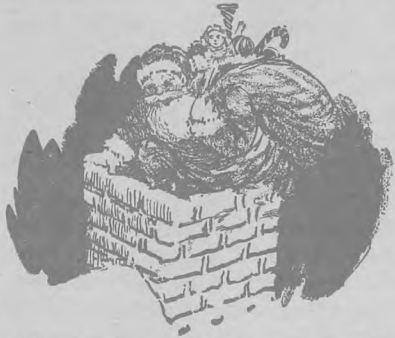
**SAVE MONEY! DON'T DELAY!
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One of those large-chested women, who always seem to be closer to you than you are to them.—L. A. B. Hutton.

by constant care and attention. Still, one wonders whether concern with things of the moment are always the most important, and whether there is not some fundamental value to be conserved by recognizing the plow as the symbol of man's long apprenticeship to the soil.

Whatever the ultimate answer to this question may be, Bob Timbers and Edwin Demmans will make a pilgrimage to ancient Oxford, in England, a year from now, in search of the golden plow, which stands for world pre-eminence among the craftsmen of the ancient and very honorable art of plowing.

The Country Boy and Girl



ONE of the best loved Christmas poems recited by children throughout the world at this time of the year is the beautiful "Twas the Night Before Christmas" which was written by Clement Moore for his children at Christmastime about the year 1800. Little did he realize that his poem would be translated into many European languages and even printed in Braille.

You could have lots of fun acting out this poem for a Christmas concert or a club social evening. You need a "Mamma" and a "Papa" and two or three "children" all dressed in nightgowns. Four or five girls wearing short, colored dresses could be the "sugar plums" who dance around the bed where the children are now sleeping. You'll need a jolly boy with his suit stuffed with pillows to play the part of "Santa" to come thumping down the chimney, take a long look at the sleeping children, then go to work filling up their stockings. Have a chorus of children to recite the poem either from the back or side of, or below the stage if the platform is small. This chorus will need a conductor to direct the speakers when to stop and start as the action unfolds on the stage. As you work out ideas for the play you will find you can introduce music and sound effects and plenty of action.

Ann Sankey

Shoe Shine

by Mary Grannan

JACKIE couldn't believe it. His father really meant what he said! Jackie looked at his mother, hoping that she could do something to change his father's mind.

But Mrs. Allison shook her head and said, "I'm having nothing to do with this, Jackie, don't look at me. You and your father made an arrangement. He kept his side of the bargain. If you haven't kept yours, you'll have to take the consequences."

Jackie had never expected anything like this to happen. It all began last month, when Jackie asked for a weekly allowance. His father told him then that he was too young to manage money. Jackie had insisted that if the other boys on the block could manage money, he could too.

"But they're all older than you, Jackie," his father had said. "They're learning arithmetic in school, and you have to know arithmetic in order to count. I'm afraid you're not very advanced in your studies, yet. I think you'd do much better if you asked me or your mother for money when you need it."

But Jackie had insisted. He remembered that his father had a twinkle in his eye when he finally agreed. His father must have seen that something like this was going to happen. He had made an agreement with his father, that if he were given an allowance, he would buy his own candy and ice cream and tickets to the movies or to any other place of amusement that he wanted to go. He was sure he could set enough money aside each week to pay for all these things. And now he had discovered he was wrong. The circus was in town, and Jackie had no money in his bank.

Jackie, almost crying, watched his father drive the family car down the driveway to the street, and around the corner. He turned back to his mother.

"Dad's mean," he sobbed.

"That's not fair, Jackie," said his mother, "and you know it. You had ice cream almost every day last week. You had candy twice, and you bought a dump truck."

Jackie sniffed. "But I didn't know then that the circus was coming to town, and I love circuses."

"I know," said his mother, "but when you're handling money, you should always set some aside for special things. If I were you, I wouldn't give up hope. Surely you can think of some way to earn enough to get you to the circus."

Jackie brightened. He asked his mother if he could run errands for her. She shook her head. She had an ample supply of everything she needed in the house. Almost despairing, he went to the rumpus room. Perhaps some music would cheer him up. He dropped the needle on the record that lay on the machine. A gay little song filled the room.

"Shoe shine, shoe shine,
Shine your shoes today.
Let me shine your shoes, Mister,
I will make them bright and gay.
I'll clean, I'll rub, I'll polish
I'll make your shoes look just fine,
May I shine your shoes, Mister?
I'll shine, I'll shine, I'll shine."

The song gave Jackie an idea. He dashed back to the kitchen. "Mum," he said, "do you think Dad would let me have his shoe polish? The black and the brown?"

"Do you mean all of it?" she asked.

"Yes, Mum," said Jackie. "I think I can earn enough shining shoes, to get a ticket to the circus."

"In that case," said Mrs. Allison, "I think your father would expect you to replace the polish out of your earnings."

Jackie agreed that that was fair enough. He ran to the basement, and found a suitable little wooden box. A man would need to put his foot up on a box. With a bag on his shoulder, holding a brush, polish, and buffer, he set out for the corner.

He sang his little song merrily, and it was not long before he had a customer. Business was good all morning. Jackie's pockets were beginning to feel heavy. But not his heart! He felt quite sure that he had earned enough money already, to buy a ticket for himself, and one for his mother. A few more shines, and he could invite his father to be his guest at the big show.

The clock struck the noon hour. Jackie was feeling hungry, and he knew he must soon go home for lunch. "One more shine!" he said to himself.

A well-dressed man was coming across the park. He wore a wide brimmed grey hat, a smartly tailored suit, an immaculate blue shirt, and in his maroon tie, there sparkled a large diamond stick pin. As Jackie went to meet the man, he looked at his shoes. "Shine, sir," he said, and then laughed. "I beg your pardon, sir, I couldn't make those shoes any shinier."

The big man laughed, too. "No, I don't think you could. I just had them shined over at the hotel. Do you think you could have done as good a job?"

Jackie shook his head, honestly. "No, sir, I don't suppose I could have. You see I just went into business this morning. I'm going out of business this afternoon. I've earned enough, sir."

"Enough for what?" asked the man.

"For the circus," said Jackie. "I love circuses. I didn't think I was going to get to see Mendoza's Circus, because I spent all my allowance. I made a bargain with Dad that I'd save enough for the things I needed. And when I told him that I had no money for the circus, he said a bargain was a bargain. So I shined shoes."

"Do you think Mendoza's Circus will be a good one?" asked the man.

"Oh, yes, sir," said Jackie, emphatically. "It's the best. It has lions and tigers, and wire walkers and clowns and elephants. I think I like the elephants best of all. I'd like to ride on an elephant more than anything else in the world."

The big man put his hand on Jackie's shoulder. "Young fellow," he said. "You're going to do just that. You're going to ride on an elephant. I am Mr. Mendoza, and any boy who will shine shoes all morning, just to get a ticket to see my circus, is going to ride an elephant. Where do you live? We'll go see your mother about it, right now."

Jackie, almost in a daze of delight, took Mr. Mendoza to his home.

Mrs. Allison laughed merrily at the exciting result of Jackie's venture into the business world. She agreed that Jackie might ride the elephant.

Mr. Mendoza stayed for lunch. Half way through the meal, Jackie looked thoughtful. "Do you know something?" he said. "If Dad hadn't made me stick to my bargain, all this would never have happened. It's a funny thing about fathers. They're always right."

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 45 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



IN November the trees that earlier were hidden under the rich green foliage of summer and later under the glowing colors of autumn are suddenly left bare of all their gaudy covering. At this time of year they look more naked and forlorn than later in the year, when we have become accustomed to their bareness.

All, that is, except the evergreens. To them winter brings little alteration of outline except perhaps for a denser foliage where the summer's new growth has filled up vacant spaces. Because of this year-round appearance, what we said in an earlier sketch pad about waiting for winter to study the skeleton and structure of a tree does not exactly apply.

No matter how bushy the evergreen, be it balsam fir, spruce or pine, one can always catch glimpses here and there of the main trunk and the

heavier branches, and with these you begin your sketch. Ignore everything else and set down the tree trunk from ground to top the size you want it in your drawing. Now, all your other measurements are made with this as the yardstick. If you cannot see the branches, you can at least get the silhouette and for this a tree standing by itself in the open is a good subject. Sometimes the tree has the appearance of a solid dark shape with a few lighter patches where the sky shows through branches. If the shape of the tree is right and you place these lighter patches correctly, you should have a fairly accurate portrait.

It is rather tricky to get these right, though, and so one always tries to see where the main branches leave the trunk and to follow them with the eye through the foliage. Get them right, and the rest follows naturally.



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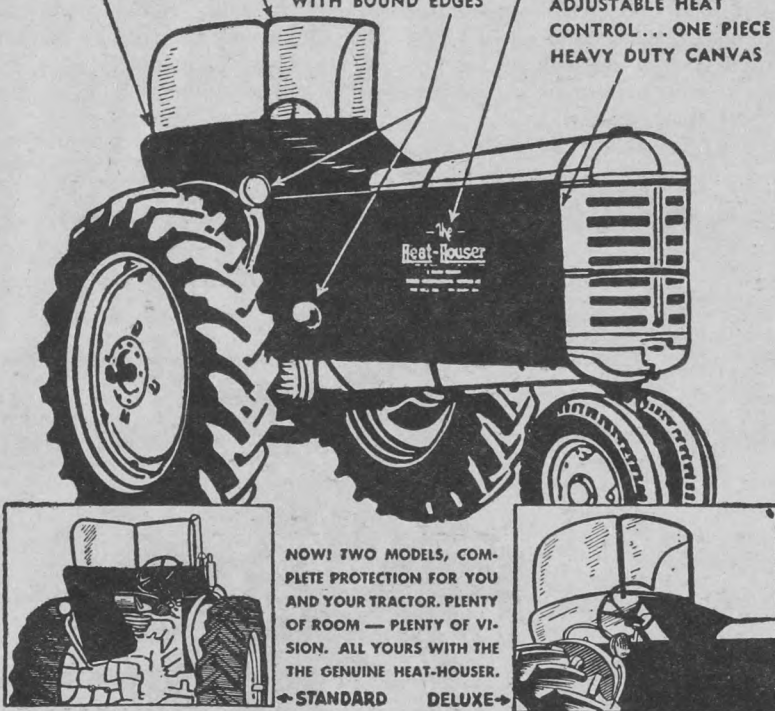
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Game Bird Gamble

Continued from page 14

their bills up the blades of grass to get the dew. When liberated, that's how they get water.

Pens should be disinfected with lime and a liquid disinfectant. The Petts operate 12 pens that contain seven birds each. Their hatching loss amounted to eight per cent last year. They use four electric incubators. In these, pheasant eggs hatch out in 23 to 27 days. Electric brooders are then brought into use, and they keep the chipmunk-striped youngsters warm and comfy. Chicks should not be too crowded and the temperature must be even. When first hatched, pheasant chicks demonstrate their timidity. If someone suddenly puts a hand into the brooder, they scatter like mice, and disappear under surprisingly small objects.

HATCHING eggs bring the brothers about 25 cents each. They ship them all over the country. They use an "electric-eye" candler to examine the dark-shelled eggs. An average pheasant will lay 60 eggs per season. This year, Petts' pheasants began laying about January 10, although they generally don't start until April 15.

According to Bill Petts, their first game-bird experience was obtained in England from an old game attendant on a neighboring estate. Years later, in Canada, they tried out what they had learned. The first known game farm in the west began at Sardis, B.C., 50 years ago, and the first pheasants imported into the province were brought in by Vancouver sportsmen from China and England, 75 years ago.

Another big pheasant farmer is A. D. Hitch, Whonock, B.C., who operates the Lake View Game Farm. Yearly, he sells about 5,000 pheasants and 800 Chukar partridges for government liberation. Mr. Hitch denies it's a gamble, and says he thinks the pheasant-raising future looks bright. For instance, pheasants can now be stored in deep-freeze units. They go into a small container, and there's no reason why everyone today cannot have his pheasant-under-glass just like the monarchs of old.

Chukar partridges please game officials and sportsmen alike on account

of their speed. They weigh about 1½ to 1¾ pounds, are slate-grey with black bars, have red legs and beak, and their tail and wings are short. They are the original desert bird.

Mr. Hitch advises the beginner to start with eggs. This veteran bird-raiser began with 12 eggs when he was a boy in public school. He got four birds out of the eggs, and from that beginning, increased the flock to 400. Twenty years have swelled the flock to 5,000 birds.

For table use, he gets \$5.20 a brace. For cocks, \$3.10 each. Crossed Ring Necks and Mongolians also work best for him. He has an 85 per cent hatch, which is high for difficult-to-handle pheasant eggs. Mr. Hitch claims that pheasants and Chukar partridges pay much better than poultry, bringing about \$1 per pound.

Like the Petts brothers, Mr. Hitch advises to move slowly when catching or transferring birds. It's best to wear the same clothing when in the pens.

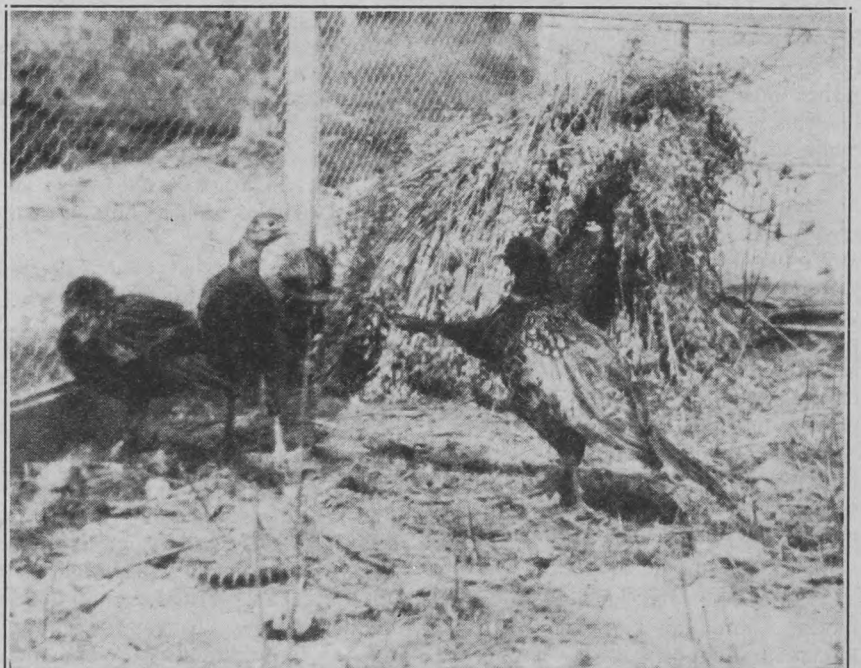
Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and not tried.—G. K. Chesterton.

Talk quietly, and use a fish-landing net to catch them.

Recently, an Oregon woman caught a pheasant with no trouble at all. She walked into her kitchen to find a fat young bird in her sink. Knowing that game officials keep a sharp eye on the birds, she phoned them. She said the bird had flown right through her kitchen window and knocked himself out in the sink. What should she do with the bird?

"Cook him," advised the game official.

And that's what 20,000-odd sportsmen are doing in B.C. this season. But even with the birds left alive from last year, they'll be lucky to get their quota from the 10,000 that the Game Commission liberates. Although the sportsman is the pheasant farmer's best friend now, some day markets will probably be developed so the housewife can buy pheasants from the freezer in her corner grocery. Then much of the gamble will be taken out of the business.



Young Mongolian pheasants on the Petts brothers' game farm. Special care is needed when entering or leaving pens to prevent birds from flying out door.

Some Reflections Up-Over the Years

In which it is demonstrated that nostalgia, though a disease, may have its uses

by DAVID L. GREENE

READING the Golden Jubilee number of The Country Guide, and participation in a celebration at Beechy, Saskatchewan, have brought back to me rich memories of "Up-over" days on the prairies. Those were the days when the small town merchant lived up over his store; normal school students were trained in the assembly hall up over the elementary rooms in Alexandra School, Regina; provincial government offices were located up over the Regina Trading Co.; and the University of Saskatchewan began its three years of peripatetic existence up over business offices in Drinkle Block, Number One, on 21st St., Saskatoon.

There was something symbolic in that up-over life. Those indomitable pioneers dwelt and worked up over their obstacles and difficulties—and they prevailed. Fifty years of progress has borne out that early augury of ultimate success. Today, the merchant owns a modern separate dwelling. The teachers in training long ago foresook the Alexandra School for more commodious quarters and their one-time home became a police station, which in turn has been demolished to make way for a bigger and better building. Government offices moved to the majestic legislative buildings overlooking Wascana Lake. The University, after wandering from Drinkle Block to old Victoria School, and from there to Nutana Collegiate, at last found its permanent home in magnificent grey-stone piles.

Those of us Normalities who were new to the prairies experienced that paralyzing three-day blizzard of November, 1906, and were destined to see many more of the same during that "Bad Old Winter" about which Hugh MacDonald writes. Hardships were aggravated by shortage of fuel due to a coal strike in Alberta. Where I homesteaded, in the Moose Jaw area, we hauled small lots of steam coal—poorly adapted to kitchen range use—from three different towns. But were we down-hearted? No. In the spring a baker arrived in the West, all set to buy up improved farms for little or nothing, from homesteaders who would be glad to quit the country after the severe winter. He travelled over leagues of prairie, but found no bargains.

Dr. Edmund H. Oliver, mentioned in Frank Jacob's article on the Hargraves, was known to me as Professor of European History and Economics in Saskatchewan University. He was a member of the original staff. He told us of gaining his first knowledge of economics the hard way. As a boy, he hoed potatoes row for row with a man. Because he was just a boy he was paid 50 cents a day, while the man received a dollar.

RECALLING personalities, I would add my tribute to Fred W. Green—no relation to the writer—, E. N. Hopkins and E. A. Partridge, sturdy stalwarts of the early Grain Growers' Movement. I recall a dark, rainy night at Newberry School, south of Moose

Jaw, where I was teaching. Through murk and mud emerged a horse and buggy bearing two travellers. They were F.W. and E.N., come to address a meeting on the subject dear to their hearts. That effort on their part was typical of many nocturnal journeys on behalf of the cause, made by those heralds of a new era for farmers.

I remember, too, a meeting at Boharm, when E. A. Partridge joined forces with the local enthusiasts and helped to arouse interest and action. Current quips at that time were, "All a farmer needs to know is the way to town. The merchants will tell him how much his produce is worth and how much he must pay for his groceries . . ." "There are two classes of people who will never organize—



1909 (?) officers, Sask. Grain Growers' Association, at Moose Jaw. Starting second from left: F. W. Green, secretary; E. N. Hopkins, president; H. Dorrell, director (all of Moose Jaw); and E. A. Partridge, Sinteluta.

farmers and lunatics!" How that latter myth has been disproved.

It was at Boharm, too, about 1908, that I first heard church union discussed. The Rev. E. J. Chegwin of Zion Methodist Church, Moose Jaw, was speaking at an anniversary celebration in Boharm Church. He outlined the proposition then being made to unite Presbyterians, Methodists and Congregationalists. He said there would be considerable opposition to the scheme, because Methodist pillars of the church would be afraid to join with Presbyterians lest they should be wrecked on the rock of predestination, while Presbyterian elders would hesitate to unite with the Methodists for fear that they would all go to Halleluiahs! That bogey was laid low when union was consummated in 1925.

My journey back to Saskatchewan this past summer took me into the district which I first saw 45 years ago. It is now served by the towns of Lucky Lake, Demaine and Beechy. I reached the district in May, 1910, by driving a grey pony on a buggy from Moose Jaw, along the old trail which is now Highway No. 1. I travelled north from Morse, through the Rolling Hills and the pasture ground for some 3,000 head of Gordon, Ironsides and Fares' longhorns. I crossed the Saskatchewan River, by Log Valley ferry,

and located a homesteader, Dave Anderson, whose name and section number had been given to me. The first emissary of the church had arrived, to commence holding services and it was his first student mission.

After graduation from Emmanuel College, Saskatoon, and the University, I was ordained and appointed to that same field, which then had a post office named Sunkist. I served there three years, and thus was counted amongst the pioneers this summer, and deemed eligible to sit in and speak at their banquet at Beechy. Over 200 pre-1915 settlers were present. On Sunday, July 17, Saskatchewan's Day of Prayer, I had a service in the church I helped to build at Sunkist; and in the afternoon, an outdoor community service at Beechy. The Golden Jubilee was well and properly observed in that locality.

Life in the pioneer days was characterized by long and often hazardous hauls across the river by ferries, and out to the towns of Elbow, or Morse, 40 or 60 miles distant from homesteads. Railway and towns came

eventually. Came also mechanized farming. I looked in vain for dozens of farm homes that were once familiar to me, and for schoolhouses in which I held services. They were gone with the farmers—to town. I confess to a nostalgic feeling for the old four-horse binder, and for the neighborly gatherings at which we enjoyed "a feast of reason and a flow of soul." I appreciate the sentiment of Thomas Saunders' poem, New Fangled Ways: ". . . Old McDonald has a farm, though he lives in town. On the farm there are no cows. Eei, Eei, Oh!"

HOWEVER, the present generation no doubt understands the situation, and what it is all about. I felt rather sorry for one 80-year-old Scottish pioneer who found some comfort in his reflection, "Ay, they may be coming back!" But most of the people are happy and content with the evolution in farming methods. I never saw that country looking better, nor the people more cheerful and optimistic. They were going forward into the next half-century full of hope and confidence.

The other night I listened to the CBC broadcast of the dedication of the cairn at Cobourg, Ontario, in connection with the world plowing matches. I was intrigued with the idea

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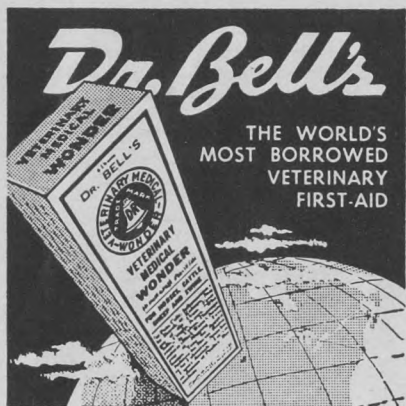
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of the Golden Plow as the symbol of agriculture. I was pleased with the statement of a speaker that agriculture and Christianity are closely related. The church recognizes this relationship and she holds special services of blessing a plow brought into the church at seeding, or Rogation, time.

Then I recall a conversation with a farmer back in my old mission this summer. He was telling me that surface cultivation with the oneway disk has rendered the plow obsolete. So it would seem that this atom-powered generation is bold and enterprising enough to scrap the tool that has been the symbol of agriculture for 7,000 years. So I ask what is the use of those

select plowmen going over to Sweden to compete against the world for the Golden Plow? What will they do with the trophy when they get it? Such thoughts perforce arise.

Oh well! It was good to have lived through Saskatchewan's pioneer days, and to have known some of the men and women who made the province. It was good to re-visit the old scenes and renew golden friendships. It is reassuring to feel that there are still giants and visionaries on the prairies, who will see to it that the rich heritage into which this new generation has entered will be preserved and handed down to their children unimpaired. Floreat Saskatchewan! V

Turkeys for Holiday Meals

Turkey appetites provide a market for grain from irrigated acres on this Alberta farm

FOUR hundred turkeys made up the first flock on the partly irrigated, Taber, Alberta, farm of R. Leth, six years ago. Now the turkey enterprise has grown to 10,000 birds. The entire 320 irrigated acres are devoted to producing grain for their huge appetites, and Mr. Leth still has plans to double the size of his already mammoth flock.

He says they not only offer a highly successful method of selling the wheat, oats and barley from his productive irrigated fields, but they also make good use of the pasture growing on the higher ridge of land which runs along the southern boundary of the farm. Moreover, he has become so interested that he has gone into the breeding game too.

Last fall he imported 3,500 eggs from the United States. It was an expensive importation, costing two dollars per egg across the line, he says, and coming closer to \$2.50 each, before he finally got them home and hatched. The price was high because the breed was new, his importation being among the first White Lancasters brought to Canada.

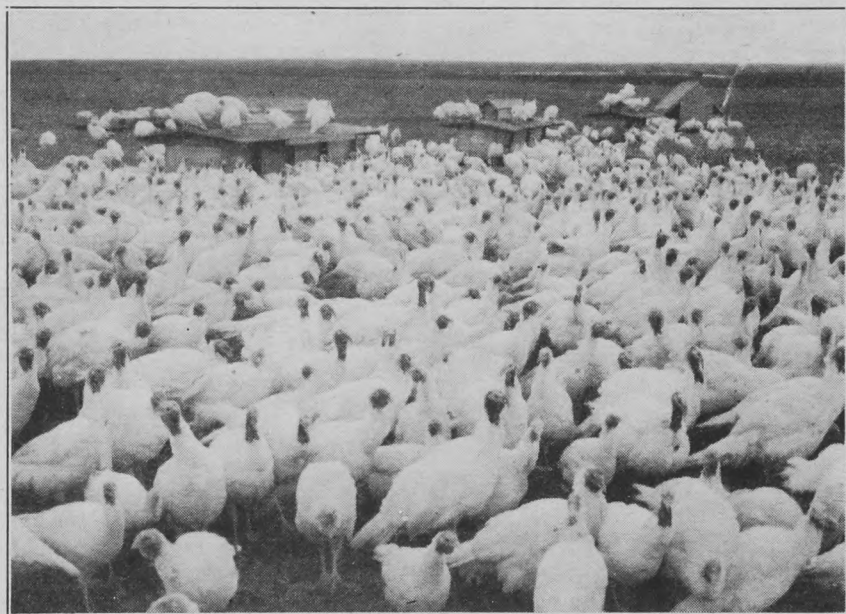
This breed was selected from the popular Bronze turkeys, differing in color and showing a pure white bird which is so popular with consumers. To maintain the future quality of his flock he has rigorously selected a few of the best birds to form his breeding flock,

and is ready now to supply his own replacement poult.

Further indicating his preference for the white carcasses, Beltsville Whites make up a big portion of his total flock. The remainder are the ever popular Bronze.

WHEN The Country Guide visited the Leth farm, the seven-month-old White Lancasters were being caught, sorted and shipped from their summer home on the range to Lethbridge, in time for the holiday market. In earlier years he had used the old reliable wire hooks for catching the birds on range, but discovered that these bruised their legs when they struggled for freedom. Now he has developed a gentler system. Groups of turkeys are herded into a snow fence enclosure on the range. Then they are directed into a wire chute at one end of the enclosure, leading into a series of wire cages with the partitions removed. Once in, the partitions are replaced, and the cage doors can be opened and the birds removed with little fuss or excitement.

From the cages, a few of the best birds were retained for the breeding flock. Most of them, however, went into the crates and were soon on their way to Lethbridge. Even such expensive birds were not considered too good for holiday dinners. V



A portion of the 10,000-bird turkey flock of R. Leth, Taber, Alta. These are Beltsville White birds, which account for a large portion of the flock.

[Guide photo]

Dairying at Rocky Mountain House

Cows, grass and hogs are the right combination for this Foothills country farmer

BILL SINCLAIR couldn't possibly hide the traditional thrift of his race behind the broad Scottish brogue that rolls so easily off his tongue. But even if he could, a visitor could spot it the minute he set foot on the Sinclair farm, 22 miles southwest of Rocky Mountain House. For the hard-working Scot is busy raising a family on 85 acres of cleared land in the wooded Alberta Foothills. His land lies on the flats bordering the trout-filled north fork of Prairie Creek; and a two- or three-pound cutthroat has often been caught from their yard and rushed into the frying pan to provide a tasty snack for the family in the fishing season.

But Bill's time is given to the farm. To make his living he has to juggle his crops and fields as judiciously as any magician juggles his cups and saucers. This summer he had nine cows producing nearly five cans of milk daily, despite a serious drought. He has had his stock up to 60 head of cattle, and he regularly feeds hogs on the farm.

Much of the time it has been tough sledding. When he first took over the farm ten years ago, he had to lumber part time, like many farmers in the district do. He gave that up, however, when his farm demanded his full time. Then, in 1952, after doing well on the steers he had fed the previous year, he was slapped down by the price slump following the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Rather than sell his steers at the lowered price, he tried to hang on. He turned them to pasture in the wooded land around—and later found six of them trapped and dead in an old shack where they had taken shelter.

Last year his herd went down on the tuberculin test, and was lost completely. He searched the country to replace it with purebred Holsteins. Since then he has been weighing their milk, and with the calm of a philosopher, insists now that "maybe it was all for the best. These new ones, are far better individuals than the ones I lost."

NOW, his grassland program is the backbone of his operation. Not an acre of the farm can be left in fallow. Frost is an ever-present hazard to grain growing in the area, and grass and hay are therefore his best-paying crops. His favorite grass mixture is ten pounds of brome, seeded through the grain drill, and five pounds of alfalfa, spread with the cyclone seeder. He plans to add alsike, to his program, because it grows almost wild in the district.

Normally, he cuts hay early, stacking it in the field, and pasturing the second cut. This past year the district suffered one of its infrequent droughts. As a result, in mid-August, he was pasturing green feed which would normally be saved for later.

Hay and pasture fields are left down about four years. After taking off a cut of hay in the final year, he plows and keeps the land black for the remainder of the summer. The following year, it is seeded to grain.

The next year it is in grain again, as a nurse crop for a new seeding of grass.

Although there is no fluid milk market handy, Bill insists that his dairy cows pay well. The cream is shipped to Rocky Mountain House, to the Central Alberta Dairy Pool. That brings him a regular cash income. The skim milk is fed to the calves and pigs, and again is turned into cash through the meat it produces.

The fertile river-flat soil has produced well over the years, with only the manure returned to the land. Farmers there figure that their farms are among the oldest in the West. In fact, they can still point to the remains of the old fur-trading post that antedates old Fort Edmonton. Bill Sinclair is now turning to commercial fertilizer, in an attempt to further boost his production. V

Lumbering Giants Live Again

Continued from page 13

William Henderson and V. G. Lynes, two veterans from Crystal City, paused by a spinning-wheel to admire the handiwork of those who went before them, and were spending a pleasant day living over again the scenes that had been an important part of their lives.

The youngsters were there, too. Kenneth Down, aged 13, had driven a 20-40 Case gasoline tractor, 1915 vintage, over from Holland, about 30 miles south. The old-timer was a gift from his father, George Down, to the Agricultural Memorial Museum of Manitoba.

THE Museum is a collection of old farm machines and implements presently sitting among the trees south of Austin, but it is hoped to set up a building there on 20 acres given by Thomas Carrothers, and that farmers will bring in other pioneer machines for the collection. One of the purposes of the Threshermen's Reunion was to raise money and enthusiasm for the project.

Amid the smoke, the crowds and the hubbub, one of the busiest and happiest men was the Rev. G. H. Hambley, minister of Basswood United Church, who, as president of the Museum, leads a group of enthusiastic directors from many parts of the province. They are determined that the pioneer days shall not go unhonored, and the big attendance at the Reunion showed that they are not crying in the wilderness. There was further encouragement from Hon. C. L. Shuttleworth, Minister of Public Utilities, who said at the Reunion that if the people of Manitoba regarded the Museum as a worthwhile venture, the Government would be right behind them.

Now the old machines are back among the trees again, waiting for the time when there will be a place to house them. It is probable that they will not wait in vain. V



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VOL. LXXIV WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER, 1955 No. 11

The Wheat Problem

TWO recent events bearing on the wheat disposal problem, at least tend toward a lifting of the gloom surrounding this question. President Eisenhower, following his first interview, since his illness, with Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, has issued a statement strongly supporting Mr. Benson and opposing any return to high, fixed price supports at 90 per cent of parity. These, it is generally admitted, were instrumental in bringing about a succession of billion-bushel wheat crops in the United States, and of creating no small portion of the world's wheat surplus. The other event is a meeting at Geneva, Switzerland, of wheat exporting and importing countries, looking toward a renewal of the International Wheat Agreement.

The decision of the President to support Mr. Benson, cuts both ways. While supporting the policy of flexible price supports, he is also supporting the Benson policy, and that of the Congress, of getting rid of the very large surpluses of farm products held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the U.S. government, at almost any cost to the treasury. It is this policy which has led to strong protests from Canada, and more recently, to the establishment of a joint consultative committee on surplus wheat disposal. Canada has protested very strongly to Washington that the very heavy subsidization of U.S. wheat sales is working a severe hardship on this country, and particularly on Canada's wheat producers. They are not subsidized, and for the most part, at least, do not want to be, if the Canadian Wheat Board can be allowed to operate without unfair competition from her far wealthier neighbor, in a market stabilized to some degree by a renewed international agreement. The present U.S. give-away tactics, necessary as they may be in the U.S. politically, are all the harder for Canada to take, in view of the fact that countries other than Canada, the United States, Australia and Argentina—the big four among wheat exporters—have increased their percentage of world trade since the end of the war, from about one per cent, to 15 per cent or more.

The fact must be recognized that the farmers of the western world particularly, aided by science and the weather, have been able to catch up with food requirements, and to some extent exceed them, despite substantial increases in population. In addition, some decline in wheat consumption has been the inevitable result of generally improved diets. It is not easy, therefore, to find a ready way out of the difficulty.

A number of suggestions have been made, of course, but for our part we cannot see much that is hopeful in the idea of barter, or of returning the sale of wheat to the private grain trade. If the Wheat Board were not attempting to sell by every means open to it, in the face of the unfair competition to which our wheat is subjected, the suggestion of a more aggressive sales campaign might have some merit. We strongly suspect, however, that both the Wheat Board and the Government, to which the Board is responsible, are quite well aware of the criticism which would immediately fall on them, if there were any proof that Canada's present sales efforts were not sufficiently aggressive. Similarly, there is reason to doubt that much additional wheat could be moved into consumption, even if board prices were lowered appreciably.

We do not see that the surplus wheat can be disposed of quickly, by any method. At the Geneva meeting, Canada's representatives are very properly urging that subsidization be curtailed as rapidly as possible, and that the wheat market be returned to a more competitive condition. It would be unrealistic, however, to expect very prompt results in this

direction. Farmers themselves are left, then, with the responsibility of determining whether they will continue to seed as many acres as usual and hope for the best, or whether they will accept some portion of responsibility by deciding, as best they can, what crops, and what acreages of each they will sow next spring.

Our provincial departments of agriculture, our universities, and our numerous experimental farms could very well rouse themselves to some activity in this connection. It seems reasonable to expect them, under present circumstances, to bring alternative crops and methods of increasing the cash income of prairie farms to the attention of farmers in their respective areas. It must be recognized, of course, that there are fairly large areas in the prairie provinces where there are few, if any, practical alternatives to wheat; and also, that it is in precisely these areas that our best quality wheat is normally produced. At any rate, our suggestion to thousands of wheat producers across the prairies is that if they seed the usual acreage of wheat next spring, they should do so after very careful thought, rather than in obedience to custom. V

Suspense

IT appears now that enthusiasm for producer marketing boards must be held somewhat in check for a time, until the courts have had an opportunity to clarify the law for the benefit of both federal and provincial governments.

Up to now, the success of such boards has been generally felt to imply, legally, the right to engage in interprovincial trade; second, the right to join with similar boards in other provinces if deemed advisable, to create a joint selling agency; and third, the right to levy charges or fees to facilitate the legitimate purposes of a board. These rights are not clearly established as yet, and by agreement between the federal government and the provinces, which was arrived at during the recent federal-provincial conference, a joint committee has been established under the chairmanship of the Minister of Justice, with a view to taking certain of these matters before the courts for clarification.

Meanwhile, the government of Prince Edward Island has recently discharged the elected members of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board, and substituted for them a board of its own selection, including, it is charged, members who, up to the present, have been opposed to the idea of a board. In Ontario, too, the Ontario Hog Marketing Board is faced with a court action charging that its actions are unlawful. By sheer coincidence, the Ontario Peach Marketing Scheme, operating this year for the first time, ran into an unfortunate combination of weather and markets. It is understood that the Ontario government has been considering some further amendments to its present Act, which, in view of the joint action proposed by federal and provincial governments, may be delayed.

These factors, added to the unfavorable reception given in the prairie provinces to the proposed over-all livestock marketing board, and the recent limited success achieved in Alberta in obtaining a satisfactory marketing act, seemed to suggest the advisability, at least for the time being, of a period for reflection and co-ordination of thinking on the subject. Farm organizations have been hoping, so far without result, for amendments to the Federal Act, which they have requested. This, too, is in storage, in all probability, until the opinion of the Supreme Court has been secured. V

Canada's Economic Prospects

SOME months ago the Prime Minister announced the appointment of the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects. The Commission, headed by Walter L. Gordon, widely known Toronto businessman, consists of five members, from five of the ten provinces of Canada, and includes Dr. Andrew Stewart, president of the University of Alberta, from the prairie provinces.

The work of the Commission will be furthered by a staff of 25 or 30 persons, including a number of economists and other specialists, who have already begun studies of specific questions related to the Commission's appointed task. The Commission

itself has begun a series of public hearings at St. John's, Newfoundland, on October 17, and begins its western hearings at Winnipeg, November 14. In January, it will hold hearings in Quebec City, Montreal and Toronto, and there will be a final sitting in Ottawa in February, the plan being to complete its report before the end of 1956.

Canada has been experiencing a period of remarkable growth since the close of World War II. During these years, population has increased by 29 per cent, the labor force by 22 per cent, and gross national product by 32 per cent, in terms of constant dollars. The Commission will now determine and assess the forces which have been responsible for this extraordinary development, and will set forth their conclusions as to our economic prospects, on the strength and generative qualities of these factors, or some of them. Having established a sound vantage point, we cannot believe that the Commission's chief business, that of peering into the future, can be other than exciting to the Commissioners and their helpers, as well as exceedingly valuable to Canada.

What, for example, will intelligent peering through a carefully prepared crystal ball show to be the most desirable immigration policy for Canada? Will the need of agriculture for an enlarged domestic market, clash in the picture with a rate of population growth in keeping with the demand of organized labor for a steadily rising wage rate? Will Canada sit more comfortably beside the United States, 10, 15 or 25 years hence, than we do now as we peer around huge piles of wheat, or over high tariff walls? What will be the position of the Maritime Provinces, or of Saskatchewan, at that distant date, in relation to the now highly industrialized provinces of Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, and the burgeoning province of Alberta? Will a good, sensible look at the need for a stable and soundly balanced Canadian economy make the South Saskatchewan River Project seem desirable in the immediate future? And what of education? Will the prospects suggest that Canada will be a better educated democracy in 1980 than at present? What about the 700-mile geographical barrier between East and West? Will the crystal ball suggest that it may become less forbidding and obstructive?

These are but a few of the views which the Commission must endeavor to obtain of the future. Few Canadians will envy Commission members their responsibilities, but many, no doubt, would gladly share the enlightening experiences that will be their principal reward. V

Ontario Leads the Way

THE Ontario Beef Producers' Association has brought into effect a provincial scheme for promoting beef as an item of diet. It is to be done by means of a consumer-relations program, financed by deductions of ten cents per head on cattle and five cents per head on calves going through the stockyards, or direct to packing plants. Deductions will be made without charge by dealers, commission agents and packers, and remitted monthly to the Association. The scheme is entirely voluntary, and any producer who does not wish to contribute these small amounts may have his money refunded in full on application within 60 days. It is not anticipated that many refunds will be requested.

The Ontario beef producers have taken the bull by the horns, so to speak, and proceeded with a scheme which has been under discussion for the last two or three years. The idea was borrowed from the American Meat Institute, a joint project among U.S. producers and packers, and was given its first airing in Canada among members of the Western Stock Growers' Association. Officially launched under the auspices of the Canadian Council of Beef Producers, it was largely supported by the organized beef cattle producers of the four western provinces. Dragged into the mixed atmosphere of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, however, the proposal was submerged in talk, for the time being at least. Now that the Ontario producers have decided to go ahead on their own, it is to be hoped that the proposal can be resuscitated as a national scheme, to take place alongside the June set-aside sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the National Dairy Council. V

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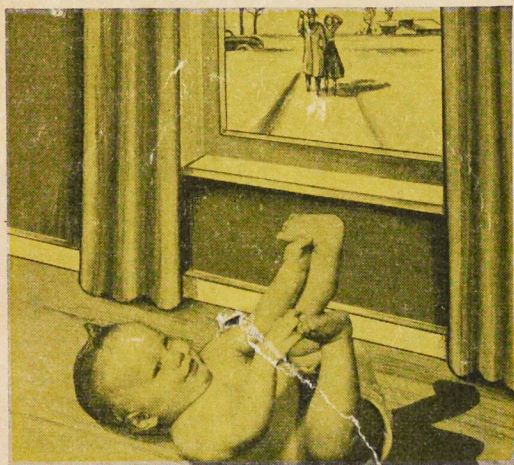
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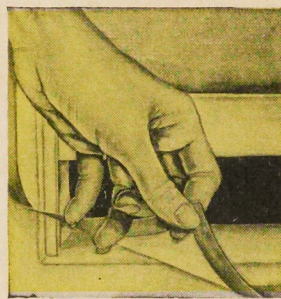


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